

RG104 Entry 216

Volume 3, with Index

January 12, 1837 – July 22, 1837

Letters sent and received by the Secretary of the Treasury relating to Branch Mints.

Documents are in rough chronological order but are not separated by Branch Mint facility or subject. Blank sheets and routine endorsements have been omitted. Annotations and addenda sheets have been digitized as they appear in the originals.

Some documents might duplicate those in RG104 Entry 1 but no specific identification has been attempted.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF
THE MINT

Records of the Office of the
Secretary of the Treasury

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM BRANCH
MINTS ("V" SERIES), 1834-1873

Vol. 03 of 20

NC-152, Entry 216

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C. 1. 2.

Mint of the United States

Letters ~~Strong~~

U. S. ~~Mint~~
and Branches ~~James Buchanan~~
1837 & 1838. ~~Morey~~

Alphabet ~~Branches~~
~~211~~

I hope to send to the President
this week.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
P. M. Tattersall
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

C. 1. 2.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan 12, '37.

Sir,

A letter of the 4th inst., just received from Gen. Gordon, informs me of the safe arrival, at New Orleans, of the machinery forwarded for the Branch Mint.

Our Clerks are busily employed in making up the necessary data for the Mint report, which I hope to send to the President this week.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant
P. M. Tattersall
Director

To / Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury. }

C. A. G. prepare notice suggested by the Director

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia Jan 4th 1837

Although I have not yet information that the new Mint bill has become a law, yet as this event seems to be past a doubt, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the necessity of giving a public notice of the change of standard and weight of the coins, — a notice which, I presume, will come with more propriety from the head of the department than from myself. I would respectfully suggest to you a form something like the following.

Treasury Department
January 1837.

Notice is hereby given, that, under the provisions of an act of Congress of the inst., all coins of the United States, both of Gold & Silver, bearing the date of 1837, and subsequent years, will have the standard such, that, of one thousand parts by weight, nine hundred will be of the pure metal and one hundred of alloy: that the weight of the gold coins will be the same as established by the law of June 1834, — the eagle having the weight of two hundred and fifty eight

grains, and the parts in proportion: and that the weight of the Silver Coins will be reduced, so as to retain the same quantity of pure Silver as heretofore, — the dollar having the weight of four hundred and twelve and one-half grains, and the parts in proportion.

Secretary of the Treasury

=

I have the honor to be very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant.

R. M. Patterson,
Director

Ever J. respectfully

Yr
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Wm

W



1837

the Mint
public
the change
Wright

Wm

submit this to Mr
for his signature
for the adoption
of the 2d. letter
at Philadelphia, Jan. 13th, '37.

3

of the United States,
Philadelphia, Jan. 13th, '37.

Sir,

The Section 7th of the new Mint Law,
it is enacted, that "To the Assistants
and Clerks, such annual salaries shall
be allowed as the Director may deter-
mine, with the approbation of the
President: provided, that an Assist-
ant shall not receive more than fifteen
hundred dollars, and that a Clerk
shall not receive more than twelve
hundred dollars."

Under this provision, I would most
respectfully recommend to the approba-
tion of the President the adoption of
the following salaries.

To the Second Engraver	\$ 1,500.
To the Assistant Assayer	1300.
To the Treasurer's Chief Clerk	1200.
To the Clerk of the Weigh Room	1200.
To the Book-keeper,	1000.

Jan 14. 1837

The first is the salary already established. The second is a moderate allowance to one of the most useful and intelligent individuals in the office (Mr. DuBois.) The allowance to the Treasurer's Chief Clerk is not really greater than heretofore, for he has received a commission on the distribution of copper coins, which will now cease. The Clerk of the High-Room holds a most responsible situation and fills it faithfully and ably. — The Book-keeper is competent, industrious, always at his post, and has a family to support. I hope, therefore, that the remunerations which I propose will be deemed moderate and will be approved.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Approved Jarry
2^d Jan 1839
Andrew Jackson
Mr. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury.

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia Jan 7. 14th 1837

Sir,

I send you, herewith, a letter in which I propose the Salaries to be given to the Assistants & Clerks at the Mint, and which, in compliance with the act just passed, I beg leave, through you, to submit to the approbation of the President. Should it be obtained, the first item of the appropriations for the Mint will have to be modified so as to stand as follows;

Officers of the Mint,		
Compensation to the Director,		\$3,500
" " Treasurer	- - - -	2,000
" " Chief Coiner	- - - -	2,000
" " Assayer	- - - -	2,000
" " Melter & Refiner	- - - -	2,000
" " Engraver	- - - -	2,000
" " Second Engraver	- - - -	1,500
" " Assistant Assayer	- - - -	1,300
" " Three Clerks.	- - - -	3,400
		<u>\$ 19,700</u>

As it is proper that this corrected estimate, rendered necessary by the new law, should be submitted to the Committee of Ways and Means, without delay, I have taken the liberty of sending it to you even before I have heard whether the law has received the President's signature.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Encl. a copy of the
Ch. of Lawton
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11

To /
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

11. 201 Jan 10
Lamb

1833
Mint
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Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 16, 1837.

Sir,

We are exceedingly embarrassed here from not knowing whether the new Mint bill has yet received the signature of the President, and become a law. May I ask you to let me know if this last step in the legislation has been taken, and at what date. To learn this, I have withheld my annual report till this time, as it is drawn up on the supposition that the new law is in force. I do not like, however, to detain it longer, and I take the liberty to enclose

it to you, with the request that
it may be returned to me, if
the President's signature is not to
be given to the bill, or that you
will alter the date if it is given
after the 16th.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful Servant
P. W. Patterson,
(Director.)

Ever your friend

C/

Please suggest the work of security
Hon. Levi Woodbury, ^{the Secy of Charles the shined guide}
Secretary of the Treasury. ^{master of Whelan app}

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 23, 1837.

Sir,
I have to acknowledge your favours
of the 19th and 21st inst.

The final adoption of the new
Mint law relieves us from the diffi-
culties of a temporary interregnum,
and enables us now to proceed with
our work unembarrassed.

I am gratified that the President
has sanctioned the rate of salaries
proposed in my letter of the 13th.

You ask me to suggest to the
Department the amount of security
that should be given by the Superin-
tendents of the Branch Mints; and
I will take the liberty, in reply, to
include all the other officers.

As to the Superintendent of the

New Orleans Mint, I presume he should be considered as on the same footing with the Director here, and not be required to give any security. He has neither money nor bullion entrusted to him. The other officers of this Mint, should, I think, ~~also~~ have the same securities required of them as the corresponding officers here, as the Mint is established upon the same scale. — The trust reposed in the Superintendents of the Gold Mints, who act as Treasurers, and are without the check of Director's warrants, is very great and I think that the amount of their surety should be equal to that of our Treasurers. — On full consideration, then, I would respectfully propose the following rates.

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Sub
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officers
Gordon
consul
min
Thm. Sec
Secretary

For the Mint at New Orleans.

Treasurer, \$10,000
Assayer - - - 5,000
Melter & Refiner 10,000
Coiner - - - 10,000.

For the Gold Mints.

Superintendent, acting as Treasurer, \$10,000.
Assayer, - acting also as Melter & Refiner, - 5,000.
Coiner, - - - - - 5,000.

I am sorry to say that, with all my inquiries, I have not yet been able to find any suitable persons as Coiners for the new Mints, who would be willing to accept the offices. - I have written to Gen. Gordon on the subject, and hope to consult in person with the other Superintendents.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful Servant

Wm. Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury. } P. M. Patterson
Director

Sent at the law & attended to them - in respect to all the officers
W

7
Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 28, 1837.

CSG
J. H. Keane
Sir, I have the honor to submit, for your concurrence, the following system of Mint Charges, which I have drawn up after careful consideration. They are made, under the following clause of the new Mint law.

"Section 18. And be it further enacted, That the only subjects of charge by the Mint to the depositor shall be the following: For refining, when the bullion is below Standard; for toughening, when metals are contained in it which render it unfit for coining; for copper used for alloy when the bullion is above standard; for silver introduced into the alloy of gold; and for separating the gold and silver, when these metals exist together in the bullion; and that the rate of these charges shall be fixed, from time to time, by the Director, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury, so as not to exceed, in their judgment, the actual expense to the Mint of the materials and labor employed in each of the cases aforementioned."

Mint Charges.

[Art. On Deposites of Silver.]

1st. When the silver requires refining or toughening, by being passed through the test, there shall be a charge of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per ounce on the metal subjected to this operation.

2d. When the silver is of a quality fit for coinage, except that it is below standard, the charge, for raising it to standard, shall be $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per ounce on so much of the metal as must be refined, in order that, being mixed with the remainder, the whole may be brought to standard.

3d. When the silver is above standard there shall be a charge of 3 cents per ounce on the copper used for alloy, in order to reduce it to standard.

4th. When the silver contains gold, there shall be a charge of four cents per ounce, on the deposits, for the separation of the gold.

[2d. On Deposits of Gold.]

5th. When the gold requires refining or toughening, the charges for this operation, shall be one cent per ounce, on the deposits.

6th. When the gold is above standard, there shall be a charge of 3 cents per ounce on the copper introduced, and of 129 cents per ounce on the silver: but the silver charged of a year shall in no case exceed one quarter of that in the whole alloy.

7th. When the gold contains silver, a cent shall be a charge of 12 cents per ounce, on the deposit, for the separation of the silver.

[3d. Limit to the Separating of gold & Silver.]

8th. Neither gold nor silver shall be separated, for the benefit of the depositor, when the net product of the operations, estimated under the foregoing charges, shall be less than five dollars.

I send you herewith the estimates upon which the foregoing tariff of charges is founded. I am confident that it is a very liberal one, and will, on the whole, fall short of "the actual expense to the Mint of the materials and labor employed."

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. W. Patterson,
Director.

To / Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury.

Jan 28/37

Stocks sent, Phila:
with the "Lyon" of West May 1837

Jan 28th 1837
R. W. Patterson

M. 227 Jan
Patt.

Charges on Silver.

8

1. Expense of the Test.

When the test is used the operation is kept up both day and night; and we may count upon refining three charges in 24 hours.

Each charge is about 3000 ounces; or, the days work will be 9000 ounces.

A test will serve but for one days work, and will cost \$2.

The fuel used is estimated at \$11.

Each charge will take about 60 lbs. of lead; so that the lead used in a day, at 6 cts. per lb., will cost \$10.80

The cost of the labour is about \$6.80

Hence the whole cost, for refining 9000 ounces, will be: For the test ----- \$2.00

" Fuel ----- 11.00

" Lead ----- 10.80

" Labour ----- 6.80

\$30.60

This is a trifle more than one-third of a cent per ounce; which is the charge hitherto made at the Mint, and now recommended for adoption under the new law.

2. Expense of raising Silver to Standard.

When the metal is of good quality, such as foreign Coins, but below our Standard, a portion of it only need be brought to a high degree of fineness, so as to raise the whole to Standard; and, for this portion the charge of refining by the test should be made.

An example will render this intelligible. The average fineness of Mexican dollars is 896 thousandths. By the test, Silver is raised to about 990; and our Standard is 900. From these data it is found that out of 1000 ounces, it is necessary to subject but 42.13 to the test, and the whole charge will be only 14 cents; corresponding to about 12½ cents on a thousand dollars.

3. Expense of Copper Alloy.

The Mint value of Copper is 2.857 cents per ounce Troy. We have always made the charge for Copper alloy 3 cents per ounce.

4. Expense of Separating Gold from Silver.

The days work is on 154 lbs. of metal, containing about 123 lbs. of Silver and 31 of Gold combined. The operation of separating them, which is very

complicated, includes the following items of expense.

250 lbs Nitric acid at $12\frac{1}{2}$ cts p lb.	\$31.25
15 bushels Charcoal - - - - -	2.25
1 bushel Salt - - - - -	.63
30 lbs. Sulphuric Acid at 4 cts p lb.	1.20
40 lb Lime at 6 cts p lb.	2.40
1 large Black lead pot - - - - -	2.80
1 small do. do. - - - - -	1.05
5 days work - - - - -	8.50
Whole cost - - - - -	<u>\$50.08</u>

Although, in the operation, we take care, if possible, to have about 20 per cent of gold in the metal dissolved, yet the average proportion of gold in the deposit, is not so much as one per cent; and as the charge is made on the weight of the deposit, we may consider \$50.08 as the expense of separating 124 lbs., or 1488 ounces. This gives the expense for one ounce about 3.4 cents. But when Copper is contained in the deposit, as is often the case, the quantity of Nitric acid consumed is much increased, - for Copper requires three times as much acid to dissolve it as Silver. I do not consider therefore, that the separating ought to be done at a less charge than 4 cents per ounce, which corresponds almost exactly with the old charge of 45 cents per pound.

5. Charges on Gold.

Expense of Refining or Toughening.

This is done by melting the gold with nitre, by which means it is gradually freed from the copper and other base metals, — The items of cost are the nitre, fuel, Crucibles, and labour. The charge heretofore has been 4 cents per ounce; we find that it may be reduced to one cent.

6. Expense of Alloy of Gold.

The Mint price of Copper has been already considered. The Mint price of pure Silver in U. S. Coins, is almost exactly \$1.29.

7. Expense of Separating Silver from Gold.

The process is the same as for separating gold from silver, but the charge is always made on the deposit, which is named gold with silver when the gold is in excess, and silver with gold when the silver is in excess.

If the silver be not in the proportion of at least three quarters of the whole, silver must be added; and, as there is always some waste in the operation, this is an item of expense, and will

be particularly felt at the Gold Mint.

Dividing \$50.08, the estimated cost of separating Silver from 31 lbs. of gold, by this weight in ounces, we get for the cost of the operation 13.4 per ounce.

We have been charging but 6 cents; but we have long known that the charge was insufficient. I cannot propose a lower charge than 12. — It must be observed, that, in practice, the silver separated is a gain to the depositor, and very often, an ~~important~~ ^{unexpected} one.

8. Limit to the Separating of Gold & Silver.

Sect. 14, of the new Mint law states, — "That when gold and silver are combined, if neither of those metals be in such small proportions that it cannot be separated advantageously, no allowance shall be made to the depositor for the value of such metal."

Hitherto the limit established at the Mint has been \$10; I propose to be more liberal to the depositor, and to reduce it to \$5.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 28, 1837.

Sir,

In the 22d Section of the new Mint Law, it is enacted, "That to secure a due conformity in the gold and silver coins to their respective standards and weights, an annual trial be made of the pieces reserved for this purpose at the Mint and its Branches, before the Judge of the district court of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, the Attorney of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, and the Collector of the port of Philadelphia, and such other persons as the President shall, from time to time, designate for that purpose, who shall meet as Commissioners, in the

performance of this duty, on the second Monday in February, annually: &c. "

It is thus, as you observe, left to the President to designate additional Commissioners for the annual assay, and I take the liberty of asking that the appointment may now be made.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

(To)
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

(Private.)

10

U. S. Mint, Jan. 29, '37.

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith an official request for the selection of the additional Commissioners for the Annual Assay to be held on the 13th proximo. Let me take the liberty of stating my opinion, that the number ought not to exceed three, making, in all, six Commissioners, — as many as can conveniently witness the operations. If I may also take the liberty of suggesting persons whom I judge suitable for this duty, I would name, first, the late Director, Dr. Samuel Moore, as a really excellent judge of the whole matter. I think, next, that it would be proper to have a representation of our Depositors, as I

would name Mr. Newbold, if he
were here, — but, as he is not, I re-
spectfully propose James Schott Esq.
President, or Wm. D. Lewis Esq., Cashier
of the Girard Bank. — For the
third person, I should think it de-
sirable to have a Chemist of known
reputation; and the most prominent
man here, of that character, is Pro-
fessor Robert Hare. It is right
for me to state, however, that he is
a decided anti-administration man,
but, on the principle of appointing
some minority men always on Com-
mittees, this may not, perhaps, be
considered an objection. If it should
I would then suggest the name of
Benjamin Richards Esq., or of Henry
Toland Esq.

Most respectfully
Truly Yours

P. W. Patterson

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury.

CSJ

Mint of the United States
Philad. Feb. 4th 1837.

Sir,

I am making the most anxious inquiry after suitable candidates to fill the offices at the Branch Mints, and hope to be able in a few days, to recommend persons to you for the Gold Mints; but I am exceedingly embarrassed as to the Mint at New Orleans. There are enough competent persons, but they are terrified by the character of the place as to sickness and expense, and refuse to be candidates. The difficulty is increased by Gen. Gordon's declining to accept the situation of Superintendent.

I will have the honour of writing to you again on this subject, early next week.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, approving of the tariff of Mint Charges.

I have also received your favour, enclosing the nominations of (Dr. Moore, Dr. Mitchell) and Mr. Wm. D. Lewis as Commissioners for the next annual Assay.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

C. J. F. file
 Sir,

Mount of the United States.
 Philadelphia, Feb. 6, 1837.

I have the honor to send you the en-
 closed communication, received, tonight,
 from Mr. Lewis.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,
 Your faithful servant,
 P. M. Patterson,
 Director.

To
 Hon. Levi Woodbury,
 Secretary of the Treasury.

CS 7

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Feb. 7, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you the enclosed letter from Dr. Mitchell accepting the duty of Commissioner for the Annual Assay. Dr. Moore has also addressed to me a letter to the same effect. I sent you, last night, a communication from Mr. Lewis, stating that he could not serve, in consequence of a summons to Washington from Mr. Wise's Committee. I presume that you will find it expedient to supply this vacancy, though it is not absolutely necessary to do so.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Phil^a 7th Feb^y 1837

(14)

S. W. corner Walnut & 11th St.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2^d inst. in-
solving a commission from the Executive of the
U. S., to attend to certain duties at the U. S.
Mint, therein specified.

It will afford me pleasure to of-
ficiate as required.

Please to accept my thanks for
the honor done me.

I am Sir

with great respect

Your Obed^t Serv^t.

J. N. Mitchell.

The Honourable
Levi Woodbury

Sec. Treas. &c

CSJ
Judge. v. p. 4
hope the delay
in coming gold
for the new
mould will always
be smaller possible
4 as little incident
as possible to the
deposition
15
W

Mint of the United States
February 7th 1837

Sir,

Agreeably to instructions from the Department, I herewith transmit to you the monthly statement of the deposits of gold for January.

You will observe that there was no coinage of gold in this month. This is, in part, owing to the delay in passing the new Mint law; but, in fact, there must always be an interval allowed, at the ^{end} close of the year, for collecting the master-stuff &c., so as to close the accounts of the Melters & Refiners and Chief Coiners.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

C. A. V.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Feb. 8, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you here-
with a copy of the new Mint Law,
and of the other legal provisions still
left in force, of which I have thought
it necessary to have a few printed
for the use of the Mint and its
Branches. — As the pamphlet is
not published, I have ventured to in-
clude the act amending the act estab-
lishing the Branches, although I have
not yet learned that it has received
the approbation of the President.

With great respect,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Acting Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Return thanks & put it on file with
proper clerk
W

698

Harrisburgh Feb'y 10. 1837

Sir

I have had the honor to receive through Dr. Patterson, Director of the Mint, your letter of the 2nd inst, informing me that the President has been pleased to appoint me one of the essay commissioners, under the new Mint law. This mark of the continued confidence of the President is duly appreciated, and if it be practicable for me to return to ~~the~~ Philadelphia before Monday, the day designated for the annual essay, I shall with much pleasure act under this appointment.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your obed^t serv^t

Wm. Wood

To

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Feb 11

CSY

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Feb. 10, 1837.

Sir,
I write to solicit your patience
on the subject of the nominations to the
Branch Mints. I have been several
times almost disposed to abandon the
task in despair; but I think I have
now a good prospect of being able to
present you a complete list next week.
Indeed I shall feel it necessary to
do so, even if uncertain of the accep-
tance of office on the part of the nomi-
nees, as their places can afterwards
be filled in the need, if necessary.

I send enclosed a letter from one
of our own Clerks, at \$1000 a year,
who was for some time a workman
in the department of the Mints and
Refineries. It will show you the diffi-
culties under which we labour as to the
New Orleans Mint.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

Wm. Lewis Woodbury, } R. M. Patterson,
Sec. of Treasury. } Director.

Philad^a Feb^y. 9th 1837

Dear Sir

The subject, presented to my consideration, of going to New Orleans as an Officer of the Branch Mint, has been duly considered by me; and after mature reflection on my part, and advice from my friends, I am constrained to come to the following Conclusions:

1. The expense of living in N. Orleans is so great that \$2000 per annum, would not be an adequate support for my family, nor would it enable us to live in a stile commensurate with the respectability of the Office sustained.

2. The unhealthiness of the Climate and location of N. Orleans is such, that during the Summer season, at least, we could hardly expect to escape sickness, and, of course, greatly augmented expense for nursing, medicines and physicians charges, which are said to be exorbitantly high in that City.

3. The health and constitution of my wife is very delicate, and we think it would not be proper to place her in a situation which we have reason to believe would be deleterious to both. Besides, she has a strong antipathy

to N. Orleans; though she would not make that
an obstacle to my usefulness in that place.

4. The moral aspect of that city is such
as to render it an undesirable place to raise
my family; or in case of death, to leave them.

These, with other minor considerations,
induce me, respectfully, to decline being a
candidate for the Office of Mute & Refiner in
the Branch Mint at N. Orleans.

With great respect

Your Obedient Servant,

Ed. Sprague

To/
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint.

esg

Washington Feb 14. 1837

Honble Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your Communication of the inst. and have to state, in reply to it, that it will afford me great pleasure to act as ^a Commissioner, to be present at the annual assay of the coinage at the Mint in Philad^a, which is shortly to take place. - Accordingly, I ask leave respectfully to withdraw my resignation, which was tendered under the belief that I should not be in Philad^a. at the time the assay was to take place.

I remain,

Your most obt servt

Wm J Lewis

Return it within
W

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, Feby 20. 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to
state to you that on the 13th inst., the stated day
of meeting of the Commissioners for the annual trial
of Coins struck at the Mint, four members were
present, and adjourned the meeting to this day,
when all the members were in attendance, viz:

Hon: Joseph Hopkinson, District Judge -
Henry Delpin, Esq. District Attorney -
James A. Barker, Esq. Collector of the Port of Philadelphia
Dr. Samuel Moore,
Wm D. Lewis Esq.
Dr. J. K. Mitchell.

And these Commissioners, having
carefully attended, in the presence of the Officers of the
Mint, to the trials of the reserved coins, as to their
fineness and weight, and having also compared the
weights ordinarily used at the Mint, with the Standards,
found the whole to be satisfactory & according to Law.
The detailed report, signed by all the Commissioners, is
preserved at the Mint.

Very respectfully,
your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Hon: Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, February 20: 1837.

Sir,

I send herewith,
for your approbation, the bond of Dr. Jos. S. Singleton,
Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega,
Georgia.

I have received, this morning, your
letter of the 17th, with the copy of the act of Feb'y 13th,
respecting the Branch Mints.

I have been again unsuccessful, in a
negotiation for a Coiner for the Mint at New Orleans.
The gentleman applied to was a Mr. Vail, of New
Jersey. I am forced, as to this Mint, to name to you
two candidates, for whose acceptance, if appointed, I
cannot pledge myself. I will send you my nominations
to-morrow. — This day has been occupied by the
Annual Assay.

With great respect

Your faithful Servant

W/ Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

23

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Feby 20. 1837.

Yours
direct
C & G
prepare letter
Director as Secy
noted by

I have the honor to request, that you will issue your Warrant, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for three hundred thousand dollars, under the proviso in Sect. 12 of the act of July 1836, regulating the deposits of public moneys, and the 31st Sect. of the Mint Law of Jan'y 18. 1837.

Of this amount, \$200,000 are to be placed with the Bank of America, New York, and \$100,000 in the Girard Bank, Philadelphia, for the procuring of bullion to be afterwards purchased by the Mint to supply metal for coinage.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon Lewis Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

*Altho. aft. I have ordered the transfers
deind. But it is hoped you will*

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Feb'y 20: 1837.

Sir,

With a deposit of plate and silver already furnished, and another of Mexican Dollars ready to be sent to us, the Bank of America will have supplied us with the whole amount of the deposits made with them for the purchase of metal for coinage at the Mint, viz: \$400,000. I therefore, as they are ready to continue this operation, send you herewith my request that you will issue your warrant for \$200,000, to be deposited with that Bank for this purpose.

I also ask, in the accompanying letter, for \$100,000, to be placed in the Girard Bank for the same purpose; Mr. Lewis having promised me to furnish this amount, by a more speedy operation than that which he has set on foot, with Mr. Alsop, for getting silver from Chili.

The whole of the Million to which the Mint deposits seems to be limited by the Mint law, will be thus distributed between the two banks, in the proportion of \$500,000 to the Bank of America, and \$400,000 to the Girard Bank. It was my wish and

intention that the amounts should be equal; but the promptitude of the Bank of America justifies the distinction.

Both the banks have agreed that we may check upon them for the payment, immediately, of deposits, of moderate amount, made at the Mint; the payments to be made by them, if required, in coins of the kind of metal deposited. This, you will see, is a most important step in the Mint operations, and will enable us, from this time, to make prompt payments, in coins, to all but our largest Bank depositors.

Very respectfully

Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Y^{rs}
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Secretary of the Treasury.



Just Joseph
C. B. F.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Feb. 23, 1837.

Sir,
I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 21st, with the accompanying recommendations in favor of Col. Varnum as "Smelter" at the Branch Mint at Dahlonega. I fear that this misnomer implies a mistake, not only as to the title, but as to the complicated and difficult duties, of the office to be filled. I may truly state that the nomination of Prof. Far-num, as Assayer of the Georgia Branch Mint, is, of all those which I have presented, that with regard to which I feel the most entire satisfaction, a feeling in which I am confirmed by the judgment of our own Assayer.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

Hon. Levi Woodbury, Sec. of Treasury. R. W. Patterson, Director.

1019

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Feb. 23, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 21st., with Mr. Hall's request for a "General Table of Silver and Gold Coins, showing the weight, fineness, and value, as they are valued at the Mint of the U. States, in 1837," such a table having been asked for, of him, by a citizen of Maine.

Our Assayer is, at this time, engaged in making an assay of such foreign coins, of recent date, as we have been able to procure; but the series, I am sorry to say, is very imperfect. Still, the assays cannot be completed before the adjournment of Congress; so that the Table, for 1837, cannot be furnished to Mr. Hall, without more delay than he would

probably be willing to be subjected to, under
the circumstances. I would, therefore,
take the liberty of referring him
to the table published among the
Congressional documents for 1834-5,
(I think,) and appended to the report
on Coinage made by Mr. Gillett
last year.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson
Director

Enclose a copy of
above to Mr.
Gibbs

To
Mr. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

29
House of Representatives
Feb 18. 1837

Sir

In a letter from a worthy
citizen of Maine, I am requested to
furnish him with - "A general table
of Silver coins showing their weight, fineness
and value as they are valued at the
Mint of the United States in 1837, and
a general table of Gold coins showing
their weight fineness and value, as they
are valued at the Mint of the U. States
in 1837," not being able to
obtain them at the House, I take the
liberty to enquire if I can obtain them
at your Department, if not can you
advise me when I can obtain them

Yours very respectfully
J. Hall

W
Hon Sec Woodbury

Secy of Treasury
Washington

609

Mint of the United States,
Philad^a March 7th 1837

Sir,

I had the honour to receive, yesterday, your communication announcing the appointments to the Branch Mints; and, in compliance with your instructions, I immediately wrote to all the gentlemen, giving them notice of their respective appointments.

Not knowing Mr. Bradford's address, I take the liberty of sending my letter to him enclosed, and beg that you will cause it to be forwarded. I must also pray you to let me know Mr. Bradford's place of residence, (which I hope to be New Orleans,) and whether you have any assurance that he will accept his appointment. The mass of the machinery is already at that Mint, — work is going on, — funds are wanted, — and there is no officer on the spot to whom I can give instructions.

In my letter of the 23^d of January, on the subject of the amount of security that should be required of the officers of the Branch Mints, I state that as the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch is, like the Director here, exempted from all charge of money and bullion, I conceived

that he should also be freed from the necessity of giving a surety bond. The 3^d section of the act of March 3^d 1835, is, however, explicit on this point, and requires bonds from all the officers and clerks. I presume that Mr Bradford's bond need not be for a greater amount than \$5,000.

Your list does not include a Treasurer for the New Orleans Mint. Was none appointed; and, if so, can the operations of this mint go on before the next meeting of Congress; or is there time for Mr. Van Buren to supply the place before the adjournment of the Senate?

It will be necessary that the operative officers of the Branch Mints be, for some time, at the Mint here, to learn practically the processes in their respective departments. For this purpose it is my wish to send for them without delay, as the machinery for all the Branches is nearly completed, and the officers should be present to see it put up. This view makes it proper, in my judgment, that the commissions should be made out, and the salaries commence, as soon as the acceptance of office is known; and I accordingly most respectfully recommend this course.

I know that the offices will be accepted by Dr. John H. Gibbon, Mr John R. Bolton, and Mr. David H. Mason, who may all be addressed to my care, - and by Dr. Joseph W. Harnum; at

Lexington, Virginia. This last gentleman is named
John in your letter, by mistake which should
be corrected if it has found its way else
where.

I am, Sir, with high respect,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Let the commission be made and p
so notify him -

Inform him when Bonded
him - if that will be
acpts & refer to
new volume

Mr. Gordon
will

to correct all the mistakes
- a Treasurer will be
presented to

U.S. F.
reformer Sec of State

31

Mint of the United States.
March 18th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you here-
with the oath of office and surety
bond of Mr. John R. Bolton, Coiner
of the Branch Mint of the United
States at Charlotte.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

P.S. - In answer to your letter of the 16th, just
received, I have to state that the address of Prof.
B. Rogers is - Cincinnati, Ohio; and that of
Prof. Tyler, - Philadelphia, - to my care.

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint of the United States.
March 20th, 1837.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 18th, and have to state, that, on the day I received notice of Dr. Farrin's appointment, I wrote to him on the subject, sent him a copy of the Mint Laws, and gave him the information for which he has made application to you.

I have the honor to send you enclosed the oath of office and surety bond of David H. Mason Esq., Coiner of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

iron chills
dec'd

33

^{iron}
To the Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir

I have the honour to transmit
to you, several Specimens of the Yellow or
low quality silver coin, executed in conformity
to directions received from Dr D. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint of the United States.

Sir,

No 1. Two cent pieces, containing 100 parts
Silver & 900 parts Copper in the 1000.

Whitened by being beaten to redness and
thrown into dilute Sulphuric Acid. in the
usual manner.

No 2. The same. treated in like manner, but
slightly rubbed previous to being struck.

No 3. pieces struck by the same dies, but
made of Copper alone

I have the honour to be most respt^{ly}
your ob^t Servant

Franklin Pease

Minter & Refiner Mint in States

20 March 1837
Director of the Mint. Paris

C17

Mint of the United States
Philad^a March 24th 1837

Sir,

I have the honour to send you enclosed the Oath of Office and Surety Bond of Rufus Tyler Esq., as Coiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. I have great confidence in this gentleman, as a first-rate mechanician, and a man of excellent personal Character, and feel very happy that he has consented, though after much hesitation, to accept his appointment.

I also send you enclosed a letter from Dr. James B. Rodgers, declining the office of Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Mint; and I do this with extreme regret. I am not at this time prepared to recommend a candidate for the place, but I hope to be able to do so in a few days.

With great respect,

Your Obedt. Servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Hand of the Comptroller
To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Cincinnati March 20th 1837.
 Dr Robert M Patterson.
 Director United States Mint

Sir

I had the honour to acknowledge a few days ago, by a private hand, your official announcement of my appointment as Minter and Refiner in the Branch Mint at New Orleans. I did not then express myself in any decided manner on the subject, for while I fully appreciated the honour conferred upon me, I yet hesitated in accepting, on account of my professional engagements in this City, and the nature of the new climate to which myself and family would be exposed by a residence in New Orleans. —

After the most mature deliberation on the matter, with the advice and counsel of my friends, I would now most respectfully beg leave to decline the appointment, which unsought, the government has conferred upon me, and in doing so would express my deep sense of the honour they have done me, and the regret which I feel that circumstances will not admit of my acceptance. —

You will please communicate my feelings on the subject and accept for yourself the expression of my sincere regard.

Yours &c.
 James P Rogers

March 27th 1837.
 Dr Robert M Patterson.

3 March
 1837

Recd. at the Dep't of Fin. April 11th 1837-

Mr. Hall -

L

36

Mint of the United States
Philad.^a April 7th 1837

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., asking me to nominate some suitable person to supply the vacancy caused by Dr. Rogers's declining the office of Melter & Refiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

In compliance with this request, I now beg leave respectfully to recommend, for the vacant place, James Maxwell Esq., at present holding the responsible situation of Weigher & Teller at this Mint. Mr Maxwell's duties have made him familiar with the general course of business, and with all the calculations belonging to the office of Melter & Refiner; and, if appointed, he would immediately attend, under the instructions of Mr Peale, to the practical operations; and being intelligent, industrious and ambitious, I have confidence in his being able to acquire, in good time, all the knowledge necessary to make him an efficient and useful officer. I am authorised to state that the Chief Coiner, the Melter and Refiner, and the Assayer of this Mint, join me in

this recommendation.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson

(Director)

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury.

Secretary of the Treasury.

Make out a comm^o for Mr. M.

to be sent to Robt. Smith

then

W

CSG

37

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Apr. 8, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you
that I received this morning a letter
from David Bradford Esq., dated
St Francisville, Louisiana, March 28th,
in which he announces his acceptance
of the Office of Superintendent of the
Branch Mint at New Orleans.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director

To

Mr. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

at the Treasury Department.

1382
Mint of the United States
Philad^a. April 10th 1837.

*Go to
write to
write to
write to*
I have had the honour to receive your
letter of the 7th inst.

The Gold Coinage shall be urged forward with all practicable expedition; and I have given orders that it shall consist of an equal number of half and quarter eagles.

Our formal quarterly report, on the subject of the million deposits, is in preparation. I may now state to you, however, that \$600,000 of this sum was placed with the Bank of America, and \$400,000 with the Girard Bank. From the former, we have received \$400,000 worth of Silver bullion, at the Mint price. The operation of the Girard Bank, requiring an importation from Chili and Peru, cannot bring us a return of bullion for some time yet: but, in the mean while, nothing is ventured by the United States, as it is expressly understood with both the Banks, that our purchases are made only at the Mint. All previous transactions are at their own cost and risk.

The benefits expected from the deposits are already felt. We paid, on Friday last, in Coins, a deposit of \$100,399.86, made with us on the previous

Tuesday; and all deposits up to that date were either paid, or have the coins counted out ready for payment when called for. The coinage of Silver in the month of March, was \$580,000, of which \$25,000 was in Dimes and half Dimes. — It gives me great satisfaction to make these statements to you.

It is my wish, as soon as practicable to purchase, as bullion for coinage, all the gold and silver brought to the Mint: but, at present, we are under the necessity of using a mixed system of Mint Certificates and purchases, or our Capital in coins will be exhausted by the great depositors. The payment mentioned above was for 100,000 Mexican dollars sent to the Bank of the United States, which we purchase. But as many more were sent to us again on the day that the payment was made. For these we will issue a certificate, to be paid, I hope, at a very early day. But if moderate amounts be brought to us, in the mean while, they will be purchased.

We sent, on the 6th inst. to the Bank of America \$25,000 in Silver Coins, to pay certain certificates held in New York: and, I hope, hereafter, to be able to keep in that Bank, a supply of coins sufficient to pay all our New York depositors of Gold and Silver, by checks payable there in kind. This will be giving to that city, nearly all the advantages of a local Mint.

We have not received, as yet, any part of our deposits in Gold bullion, and I need not say how

cessary it is, for the proper operation of the system,
that we should do so. Might I not, with propriety,
ask, from the Bank of America, a portion, say about
\$100,000, of the French Indemnity Gold?

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

*Copy of letter
sent to
Director of
Bank of America
to
W*

*erase
mistake*

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

*Don't send Gold to
America
if not sent Gold to
must be sent
of f. f.
Don't send
always
State of
Mr. Patterson
W*

39

Mint of the United States
Philad^a April 15th 1837

Sir,

The appointment of Mr. Maxwell as
Melter and Refiner of the Branch Mint at New
Orleans renders vacant the place of Clerk of the
Weigh Room. I propose that it should be filled
by Mr. Edward Sprague, at present Book-keeper, -
a gentleman well calculated to perform its
duties, and on whose integrity all the officers
of the Mint have perfect reliance. The situation
is one of great trust.

To supply the place of Mr. Sprague, it
is my wish to employ Mr. George W. Edelman,
a young gentleman of whose character and
qualifications I have the strongest assurances.

I propose that the salaries should re-
main as at present, - namely \$1,200 to the Clerk
of the Weigh Room, and \$1,000 to the Book-keeper.

I pray you, Sir, to do me the favour
of asking the approbation of the President to
this arrangement, as required by the third sec-
tion of the new Mint Law.

Most respectfully

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Wm. Levi Woodbury,
Secy of Treasury.

Approved
M. B.

Mint of the United States,
Phila. d. April 17th 1837.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th, enclosing an application from Mr. John Rheiner Jr. to the President, for the office of Chief Coiner of this Mint, and asking me "to report on the matter contained therein to your Department."

The situation applied for is not vacant, and it has never been hinted to me that the faithful and competent officer, who has so long held it, was likely to be removed. But if, unhappily, such a circumstance were to occur, then the question of competence on the part of any applicant for the place would be one of vital importance to the Mint.

Now I have not the honor of any personal acquaintance with Mr. Rheiner, but I have made inquiries which prove to me that he would be incompetent and unsuitable for the office in question.

The place demands an accomplished mechanician. Mr. Rheiner is, by trade, a brick-maker, — has been also engaged as a drover, — and holds, at present, a small office in the Custom house. These, certainly are not the

April 15th 1837
Director of the Mint. Mr. L.

574
B

employments to fit a man for conducting the complicated mechanical and Chemical operations of a Chief Coiner.

Thirteen years ago, Mr. Rheinier was in the Mint, for a few months, as a workman. This circumstance is far, however, from giving strength to his present claims. His employment was that of a Topper and Filer, whose sole business it was to cut off the rough ends, and file off the rough edges, of the ingots, — an occupation which neither requires, nor can communicate, any skill in mint operations.

But, lastly, the circumstance of Mr. Rheinier's removal from the Mint were such as to make his admission into it, as an officer, deeply to be deprecated. He had been in the habit of neglecting the rules as to the time of coming to work, and, on one occasion, came so late, as to draw upon him a reproof both from Mr Eckfeldt and Mr. Cloud, in consequence of which, he immediately left the Mint. How could such a one command, now, a respectful and punctual discharge of their duties, from those who were then his fellow workmen?

Yours, Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson
(Director)

To/ Hon Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury. }

CJG

Sir,

41
Mint of the United States
Philad^a April 19th 1837.

I have this day received from Edmund Forstall Esq. a letter announcing his acceptance of the office of Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans; and stating that the necessary bonds shall be forwarded to me in a few days.

I think it strange that I have not yet heard from Dr. Wm. P. Hort, — appointed Assayer of that Branch. My letter announcing his appointment, and urging an immediate answer, was sent on the 6th. of March. It is of great importance that he should be here, as he has a difficult art to learn before he can enter upon the execution of his trust with safety to the government. Has any thing been heard from him at Washington?

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson
(Director.)

Wm. G. F. L. — if
nothing heard suggest
to him writing
another letter W

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury. }

advised 17 1837

April 19 1837

699
Sir,

42

Mint of the United States
Philad^a. April 21st 1837

We have just received, from the Bank of America, the last remittance of Gold, for the fifth instalment of the French Indemnity; and I take the opportunity of again calling your attention to the importance of our having one of these Certificates transferred to the Mint under the arrangement for the purchase of Bullion for Coinage. It is our last chance, during the present year, of getting a Mint deposit of Gold, and of securing prompt payments of gold, as we have already done of Silver. In your letter of the 12th. inst., you mention that you had written to Mr. Newbold on the subject, — but I have heard nothing from him in consequence.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servant,
R. W. Patterson,

Chief Clerk of the Mint (Director)
as he has the funds to
procure metal for coining

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

hope if Mr. Newbold has not
written to him as I
understand he is one of the
agents employed by

19th April — 1837

1st May
by

43

43

Mint of the United States.
April 24th, 1837.

Sir,

I was sorry to learn, by your letter of the 21st, that Dr. Hort had not been heard from at the Department at Washington. Having written to him on the 6th, and again on the 22d of March, and received no answer, I have today requested Mr. Forstall, the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint, to set on foot an inquiry regarding him, and let me know the result.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

T. /

Wm. Lewis Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

21st of April — 1837
Dr. Hort: New Orleans

4 April
1837

44
Mint of the United States,
Phila. April 24th. 1837.

CSJ
Sir,

In answer to the enquiries made in your letter of the 22nd. inst., I have to state, that the change in the Standard and weight of the Silver coins of the United States was recommended by me in my Annual Report sent to the President in January 1836, and was afterwards introduced, also on my recommendation, into the Mint Law of the 18th of January last.

The reasons for this change may be stated as follows:

1. The old Standard was exceedingly complicated, being, in its lowest terms, 1485 parts fine out of 1664 Standard. These numbers are difficult to remember, and make the calculations into which they enter, both in the Mint and in Commerce, troublesome and liable to error.

2. This Standard was founded on erroneous assays, made, before the establishment of the Mint, by incompetent persons, and was adopted on the supposition that it was the Standard of the Spanish milled Dollar: whereas the true Spanish Standard is 902.79 thousandths, and our former Standard about 892.43, or more than one per cent lower.

April 24 - 1837

3. This Standard did not correspond with that of any other country, or with the United States Standard of gold.

4. The needless quantity of copper in the Standard injured the ductility of the metal, and increased the weight and cost of the coins without any compensating advantage.

5. The new Standard, of 900 thousandths, is, on the other hand, simple, easy of calculation, suited to the decimal system adopted in the division of our coins, and readily remembered.

6. It gives a more malleable metal, and requiring less alloy, is lighter, and, in general, less costly to the Mint.

7. In consequence of an alteration introduced, at the same time, in the Standard of gold, but so slight as not to require any change in the weight of the coins, the new Standards of Silver and gold are the same, — that is nine tenths.

8. Both these Standards corresponds with those of France, the nation of which the monetary system is believed to be the most perfect, and which has the largest metallic circulating medium.

That the value of the dollar and its parts might not be changed, a reduction in the weight became a necessary consequence of raising the Standard. Now $371\frac{1}{4}$ grains, the pure silver in the old dollar, is exactly nine tenths of $412\frac{1}{2}$

grains, the weight of the new dollar: so that the
pure silver is the same in both.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Tattersall,
(Director.)

To/ Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Address as above
to the
Minister
containing a copy of this
may be acceptable
as containing an affidavit
or some points
which

W. H. Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

CSG

45

Mint of the United States,
Philad.^a April 26. 1837

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 24th. inst., and have, at your suggestion, applied to Mr. Newbold for the gold bullion of which we are so much in want. The benefit which is expected from this purchase, is, as expressed in the act, "to enable the Mint to make the returns to depositors with as little delay as possible." Our Silver purchase has already had this effect completely, and we can now pay a deposit of \$200,000 in three days, instead of two or even three months. We desire to have the same advantage as to gold, and I think \$100,000 or even less would be sufficient for the purpose. We could then get beforehand with our gold coinage, as we now are with our silver, and the delay in our returns which has been so justly complained of, and which has kept much bullion from the Mint, would be removed.

I received, yesterday the oath of office and Surety Bond of Edmund Forstall Esq., the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. — The oath, not having been taken before a

22 April 1837.

0 April
MS

United States Judge, is not in compliance with
the law, — and the sureties, Mess. J. Berry and
C. High, are gentlemen respecting whom I have
made inquiries in vain, among persons here
acquainted at New Orleans. Under these cir-
cumstances, a new oath has been required, and
a certificate from the District Attorney as to the
sufficiency of the sureties.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson
(Director.)

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury. }



(46)
Mint of the United States
Philad^a April 27th 1837.

Sir,

The act of January 18th 1837, in Sections 33 to 37, regulates the Transactions of the Mint in regard to the purchase, Coinage, and distribution of Copper. By this act, a mode of raising funds for the purchase is provided, which differs entirely from that in the former law. We were then authorised to draw annually, from the United States Treasury, a sum of money for that purpose, equal to the Copper Coinage for the year, and the gain was paid over regularly to the Treasurer of the United States.

We have now to depend upon a fund to accrue from the proceeds of the Copper Coinage; that is, we commence by purchasing Copper without funds; paying the dealer for the same, as soon as we can coin it up and dispose of it. A profit will accrue from each purchase; these profits will be allowed to accumulate to the credit of the Treasurer of the Mint, until he shall have enough to pay promptly for any ordinary purchase. After this, the surplus will be withdrawn from the credit of that account, from time to time, and placed to the credit of the ordinary Expense account, according to law.

Director Mint
Philadelphia

John
Mint

This arrangement, growing necessarily out of the new enactment, will make a somewhat different form of accounts, which it is believed should be submitted to the review of the Department, before the trials are formally made.

1. The Treasurer of the Mint will charge himself with the amount of Uncoined Copper purchased, the Copper Coins received from the Chief Coiner, and the gain on Copper Coinage.

He will credit himself with the Uncoined Copper delivered for Coinage to the Chief Coiner, and the value of Coins deposited in the Girard Bank (or Moyamensing Bank.)

2. The Girard (or Moyamensing) Bank will be charged with the amount so deposited, and will be credited with the amount paid to the dealer in Copper by check of the Treasurer, and the amount of gain on Coinage transferred from such Bank, to the credit of the Ordinary Account.

3. The dealer in Copper will be credited by the amount of his invoice, and charged with the amount paid him by check.

4. The Chief Coiner's Account of Copper will be charged with the Mint value of the Uncoined Copper, and credited with Copper Coins received from him and with any loss by damaged planchets &c. which the Director, by warrant, will allow for.

5. Profit & Loss on Copper will be credited

with the gain which accrues between the market and mint values of the copper, and will be charged with damaged planchets, expenses of transportation, and the transfer of any surplus to the Ordinary Expense Account.)

The Treasurer of the Mint, as heretofore, will be represented in his accounts (see first head) under the titles of Uncoined Copper, and Copper Coinage. The former will exhibit all his transactions up to the delivery of planchets to the Chief Coiner; the latter, all subsequent operations, showing also the precise state of the fund in his hands provided for by law.)

The only material difference between the above forms and those heretofore used, arises from the new provisions for the purchase of copper, and the management of the proceeds of the Copper Coinage. It is conformed to the present system of accountability in all respects, — all payments and deliveries being based upon warrants of the Director.

This system of accounts is now respectfully submitted to the Department for its approbation.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

Ref'd to Compt. for exam.
To Mr. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

le M
Sir,

(47)

Mint of the United States
Philad^a. April 28th 1837.

Your letter of the 25th, with the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. McComb has been duly received.

The machinery for the Charlotte Mint was shipped from here, for Charleston, on the 14th instant, under the care of a faithful workman, and consigned to a House recommended by Mr. McComb. As the Commissioner has charge merely of the building, my letters, on making the shipment, were directed to the Superintendent and the Merchants, only.

As to the enclosure, I wish to have the opinion of the Superintendent before any plan is presented.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
Director.

cc/
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury.

Post Script.

P.S. I have just received, from Mr. Newbold, a gold certificate, endorsed in our favor, for \$55,679.38, - which is equivalent to a sale to us of that amount of gold bullion, - and enables us to accomplish the important object explained to you in my letter of the 26th.



(48)

McKean

Minr of the U. States.
May 10th 1837.

Sir,

I have at last heard from Dr. W. P. Hort,
and have received his Oath of Office and Bond
in due form. Not being able to obtain assurance
here, of the responsibility of his sureties, I must
retain the Bond until I can again hear from
New Orleans.

I have requested Dr. Hort to come
on to Philadelphia immediately.

Very Respectfully
Your faithful Serv^t

To
Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

- Write to him, that keep public money
rem'd or send out of nation on hand & pay
public use - as it may be necessary
to take all the money current expenditures.
Please to inform me how much of this or better of the

Mr. State you were here on hand & have
much of it without being your expert
man -

W

will be

1838

10. 37
broad

and

(49)
Mint of the U. States.
May 11th 1837.

Sir,

For the purpose of enabling the
Mint to purchase bullion by checks payable in coins,
and thus to make prompt returns to our depositors, we
made at the Bank of America and the Girard Bank
deposits of half dollars, - about \$50,000. in each.

Under the calamitous circumstances, in which
these Banks are now placed, I have judged it
proper to send you the enclosed copies of letters
from Mr. Newbold and Mr. Lewis on the subject of
these deposits.

Very Respectfully
Your Faithful Servant.

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

For
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of Treasury

Copy of the letters from the
honorable cabinet of the same Banks
mentioned in the subject of this
document. W

May
in

50.

Bank of America

May 10. 1837.

Dear Sir,

I wrote you yesterday and have now to announce the painful intelligence, that all the Banks in this City suspended Specie payments this day. The deposits of coin made by the Mint in this Bank, as well as the balance due on the whole of your deposits with us, is held sacred for the use of the Mint. If I shall see you in Philad^a, within 3 or 4 days from this, I will write you fully on this subject.

In great haste,

Very truly & sincerely

Yours Obt. Serv^t

(signed) Geo. Newbold. Pres^t

To
R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director U. S. Mint
Philad^a

51

Girard Bank.

Philad^a, May 11. 1837.

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

In consequence
of the distressing alternative, to which, we, in common
with the other Institutions of this city, have been driven,
by the calamitous state of the times, it seems proper,
that I should assure you, that the deposit of coin
made by you in this Bank shall be held sacred for
the use of the Mint, the same being considered in
the light of a special deposit.

Yours very Respectfully,

(signed)

Wm D. Lewis. Cashr.



(521)
Mint of the United States.
May 13th, 1837.

Sir, I have had the honor to receive your letter of yesterday, enclosing a copy of a communication from the President, on the subject of the public deposits of gold and silver at the Mint.

The sum transferred to the Mint, for the purchase of Bullion, amounted to one million of dollars, — the limit of the Mint deposit fixed by Sec. 31 of the act of Jan. 18, 1837, under which law I have considered this money as placed with us.

Of this ^{sum} ~~amount~~, \$600,000 was deposited with the Bank of America, and \$400,000 with the Girard Bank, and these Banks were engaged to purchase bullion for the Mint to these amounts.

The Bank of America has furnished us with \$400,000 of silver bullion, and \$101,325.50 of gold bullion, — the latter consisting of two remittances of gold for the French indemnity.

The Girard Bank has not furnished us with any bullion; but, on the 13th of December last, they made an agreement

May 13. 77
of Gold & Silver
Mint
Smith Richard Alsop Esq., in consideration
of certain facilities granted to him, (and
which they were enabled to give in con-
sequence of the deposits made with them
by the Mint,) to import gold and
silver bullion to the amount of \$
300,000. It is understood that this
operation cannot be completed for some
months yet: but Mr. Lewis assures
me, that, when the bullion arrives, it
shall be held sacred for our use.

We have the gold of two certificates
of the French indemnity money sent
by the Bank of America, amounting
together to \$170,777.76. Although this
is not a mint deposit, it is, I pre-
sume, "public money," and, as such, I
shall retain it, until I receive further
orders from you.

For the purpose of being able to pay
our depositors of bullion at New York,
I placed, in special deposit, at the Bank
of America, \$67,000 in half dollars:
and a similar special deposit, of \$50,000,
was made at the Grand Bank. I have
sent you copies of letters received from

Mr. Stewbold and Mr. Lewis, on the sub-
ject of these special deposits, since the
suspension of specie payments on the part
of these Banks.

Such is a statement of the affairs of
our Mint deposits. The determination
of its present amount must depend upon
the course taken with regard to the \$
170,777.75 of French indemnity gold,
now in our possession, and for which cer-
tificates are given to the Bank of Amer-
ica. If we retain the whole of it, we
shall be in debt to that Bank. I must
ask you to determine the course to be per-
sued. Can it not be transferred to us
by warrant?

You will see, that, in any event,
the amount of public money at the office
and in special deposits, will be but
between 6 and 700000 dollars.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

M. & M. May 16
Albany

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury, &
Sec. of Treasury.

Adj. rft. in President's
giving day or two with
other things

Sir,
The
letter
has
been
sent
own
have
given
which
troubles
that
of coin
consequ
deposits
all.

To
Hon.
Se

753

Mint of the United States.

May 13, 1837.

Sir,
Write this, I send an answer to your
letter of yesterday. It ought to have
been expedited, but it is Saturday
evening, and I have to act as my
own clerk. — Since writing, I
have seen Mr. Costar, and have
given him \$10,000, in half dollars,
which will be at the Bank of the Me-
tropolis tomorrow night. — I regret
that I cannot tell you the amount
of coins which we have on hand. In
consequence of our prompt payment of all
deposits lately, it is not very consider-
able.

Most respectfully,
Your obedient servant

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mr. J. P.
Campbell

Govt of the United States.

May 19th 1837.

Sir,

Your letter of the 17th inst., to the Treasurer of the Mint, enclosing a transfer draft for \$20,000. to be drawn from our vaults, and "placed in the Bank of the Metropolis for safe keeping," has been duly received, and the coins for the amount are ready for delivery here, whenever they are called for. We have not at our command, however, any "safe and favorable opportunity" for their transmission, or we should waive, in your favor, an invariable usage of the Mint, which requires, that all Depositors shall receive their returns at the Mint. The law, under which I consider this deposit as made with us, is contained in the 31st article of the Act of January 18th 1837, and in this section, it is provided, "that the Secretary of the Treasury may at any time withdraw the said deposit or any part thereof," but it is nowhere enacted, that the Mint is to be considered in the light of a Deposit Bank, and required to transmit the public funds in its possession whenever they may be wanted by the Government.

In excuse for our not sending a messenger with the coins, on this occasion, which I was sincerely anxious to do, as an act of comity to the Department,

it may be proper to state, that there are but three clerks at the Mint, and that their services are in constant requisition.

I return your transfer-draft, that you may endorse it to the order of the messenger, whom you may send for these coins.

The Treasurer of the Mint is too much indisposed to answer your letter, but he accords with me in the views, which I have presented above.

I am very respectfully,
(Your faithful Servant)

R. W. Patterson,
(Director.)

To
John Campbell Esq.
Treasurer of the U. States

Wick
Sundamp of the
Colon
Mint of the United States.

55

Philadelphia, May 27th 1837.

Sir,

I have duly considered the letter of
Col. Wheeler, which you referred to me, re-
lating to the provision of a fund here,
in which he may draw for the payment
of deposits of gold made at the Char-
lotte Mint. If, when this Mint gets
into operation, (which cannot possibly
be so soon as the Superintendent seems
to hope,) it shall be found that the
depositors prefer drafts upon the North,
their purpose will be perfectly answered
by the Mint Certificates, which will
be gladly received by any of our Banks,
and which may probably be sold at a
premium. I cannot, therefore, see the
necessity, at present, for any other de-
vice. Probably Col. Wheeler was not
aware, when he wrote to you, of the de-
graded and depreciated condition of the
Bank currency.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
P. W. Patterson,
Director.

To the Hon.
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Decree of the Court
19. May 1837

56

McK

Mint of the United States

May 27th 1887

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 22^d inst. with the enclosed copy of a letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the forms, which he has prescribed for keeping our Copper accounts. These forms shall be henceforward followed at the Mint.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Serv^t.

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

For
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secy. of the Treasury

27. 33
as for
(57)
Mint of the United States.
May 27th 1837

ack
Sir,

A visit to the quarries on the Delaware, and the Breakwater at Cape Henlopen, made with a Committee of the Franklin Institute, at the request of the Secretary of War, detained me from the Mint for two or three days, and has thus delayed my answers to your letters of the 20th & 22^d inst.

Your instructions respecting the Coinage of silver in pieces less than the half dollar shall be rigidly attended to. Indeed we have been engaged principally in this coinage for some time and are now receiving daily deposits from the Banks for this purpose. It is sincerely to be desired, that the public may permit the small coins to circulate, instead of the paltry notes with which we are now inundated, at least in Philadelphia. On the former occasion of the stoppage of specie payments by the Banks, great exertions were made, by the Mint, to prepare small coins, and they were for a time issued abundantly, but it was found, that the two circulations could not go on together, and the coins were hoarded. The experiment is again making. We are issuing change daily in parcels of \$5 worth, & upwards. I hope we may be more successful than before.

May 31
Kear

It is, perhaps, proper to mention, that the small coinage is much more laborious and expensive than the large. The silver has to be refined, and the wastage is also greater. Mr. Eckfeldt thinks that a half dime costs as much to manufacture as a dollar. I mentioned in a former letter, that we were giving copper coins in exchange for bank-notes. It was soon found necessary to put a stop to this exchange, and payments for the cents are now required in gold or silver.

I am very respectfully
(Your faithful Servant)

R. W. Patterson,
Director.

To
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury }

WPK

58

Mint of the United States
Philada June 3. 1837.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive, this morning, your communication of the 1st instant, and I shall comply cheerfully with your instructions, relative to the public deposits of coins at the Mint. I was under the impression that the Treasurer of the United States considered the Mint as in the position, as to these coins, of a Deposit Bank, and liable to be called upon to transfer them to any desired point. I am happy to find, however, that your views of this matter accord entirely with my own.

The weekly report which you ask of me, will, I fear, present some difficulties. The amount of bullion and coins together, belonging to the Government, is \$390,000 in Silver, and \$101,326.60 in Gold, and this can be varied only by the purchase of further bullion, of which we have no immediate prospect, or by transfer drafts from the Treasury Department. The amount of coins, however, is continually varying; since we now pay, promptly, from this fund, for all

deposits of bullion made with us. To diminish it considerably, would be a most serious inconvenience to the public, since it would inevitably bring us back to the old delays so much and so justly complained of. — I have asked a statement to be prepared of the condition of the Mint as to coins, and will forward it to you on Monday.

We are very busily occupied in making small coins, for which the demand has greatly increased. A single Bank has sent us \$30,000 of bullion to be converted entirely into quarter dollars, dimes, and half dimes.

Very Respectfully

Your faithful servant

P. W. Patterson

Director.

Y^{rs}

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

U.S. Mint of the United States

June 6th 1837

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you, that the Treasurer of the Mint has now in his vaults,

Of gold coins, to the value of	\$194,840.00
silver coins,	206,788.19
copper coins,	3,590.00

and that there are due to depositors, including the two certificates of French Indemnity money, to Bank of America, amounting to \$170,777.76

of gold coins,	\$197,657.67
silver coins,	39,479.46

We export daily from the Bank of America 100,000 Mexican dollars for recoinage, which will at once change our balance of silver coins from \$167,308.73 to \$67,308.73.

The foregoing statement leads to two important inferences, to which I take the liberty of asking your attention. The first is, that the Mint Deposit has enabled us to keep very low the amount of coins due to depositors. The gold indeed appears to be a large item, but this is only because the Bank of America, in consequence of their understanding

with you, have allowed their indemnity gold to remain in our hands. The amount of silver could be readily paid, but it is all demanded in small coins.

The second inference from the statement is, that the amount of the Mint Deposits cannot be reduced, to any considerable degree, without destroying the advantageous effect of the system. The balance of coins now in our favor is but \$164,491.06, and one or two large deposits promptly paid, would reduce it to nothing.

I would, therefore, earnestly beg, that drafts may not be made upon the Mint except in cases of "pressing public necessity."

Very respectfully

Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson
Director.

To
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury

Pun
L. M.

Ingersoll

69

Mint of the United States.

June 15th 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that
(Dr. Wm. P. Hort, Assayer of the Branch Mint
at New Orleans, has arrived at this city, where
I had instructed him to come, for the purpose
of practising the operations of his Department.

He has brought with him a certificate
from P. H. Lawrence Esq., (District Attorney,
that the securities to his Bond "are good and
sufficient." I accordingly now enclose that
instrument to you, with my certificate annexed.

Dr. Hort informs me that the Engine
at the New Orleans Mint and the Rolling
apparatus are erected, have been in action, and
give entire satisfaction.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury

463
WMS

ack

(61)

Mint of the United States,

Sir,

June 21st 1837

On the 1st of July, salaries will be due to the Officers of the Branch Mints, and two questions are presented, of great importance to them, respecting which I wish to consult you, and to get your instructions.

The first regards the date from which the salaries shall commence, - whether it shall be that of the commission, of the acceptance, or of the qualification by oath and Bond for entering officially upon the duties. My inquiries show that the course of the government has not been uniform in this matter. My own judgment of the justice of the case is, that the salaries should commence from the date of the commission, or, at latest, from that of the acceptance. From that time, the old occupations of those appointed were brought to a close, and new expenses were incurred. For example, the Superintendent of the Georgia Mint left his residence for Dahlonega, and came thence, by my instructions, to Philadelphia, before he took his Oath of Office. The Assayer of the same Mint resigned his professorship at Washington College, and came here, by my orders, also before he took his Oath or

gave his Bond. Is it just, under such circumstances, that the salaries of these gentlemen should be delayed until these forms were attended to?

A second question regards the mode of paying the Branch Officers, who are now here. If the Branches were organized and the Officers in place, the course to be pursued should evidently be analogous to that required at the Principal Mint, - your warrant being applied for by the Superintendent, in his own favor if at the Gold Mints, and in favor of the Treasury if at the New Orleans Mint. But to require this process now, would subject the Officers here to great and needless inconvenience.

I ^{inquire} ~~ask~~, therefore, whether I may not myself ask your warrant, in my favor, for the necessary amount to pay these salaries, out of the proper appropriations for the Branch Mints.

I am Sir, with great respect,
Your faithful serv^t.
R. M. Patterson
(Director.)

To
Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

McKean
(62)
Mint of the United States,
June 30th 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you enclosed some specimens of a new coinage of Dimes, which I pray you to submit to the inspection of the President.

To prepare the original die for the head of this coin, by the ordinary process, would have occupied our Engraver two months, and would have been a task requiring great skill and close labor. But by means of an instrument, which I caused to be made at Paris, and which the French call a tour à portrait, the hubs both for the dime and half-dime were cut in one afternoon, and required afterwards only retouching and some finishing by hand. They have, besides, the advantage of being exact fac-similes, reduced, of the larger dies.

I will take this opportunity of stating, that some difficulties were presented, for a time, in the use of the power-coining-presses; introduced by me into the Mint, in consequence of which their operation was frequently interrupted, and much embarrassment

caused. It gives me great pleasure now
to announce to you, that these difficulties,
always incident to new machinery, - have been
completely overcome. One of the power presses
has coined 400000 cents in the last two weeks
without interruption or accident; and our
largest press has been coining half dollars
with perfect success.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servant

P. M. Patterson
Director

To
Honble Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury

ur Records
istration

Antley

(63)

Mint of the United States.
July 5th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your warrant, in my favor, for two hundred and eighteen dollars and 85 cents, in addition to the sum asked by me in my letter of the 1st inst., out of the appropriation for paying the Officers of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega.

\$218.85

Most respectfully,

Your faithful Servant

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To /
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

McKe

(64)

Mint of the United States,
July 6th 1837.

Sir,

We have about \$ 60,000 of silver coins, on special deposit, at the Bank of America, N.Y.; and they have nearly the same amount, in silver coins, at the Mint.

Before I received your letter stating that coins would be wanted from us, at Washington, about the time of the assembling of Congress, I had told Mr. Newbold, that I had no objection to the special deposit remaining in his hands, as we might draw upon him to pay depositors of silver bullion from New York. I feel it my duty, however, now, to inquire whether it is your wish, that I should call in the whole of the Mint deposit, or may leave the coins, amounting to about \$ 110,000. now at the Bank of America and the Girard Bank.

Very respectfully
(Your faithful Serv^t.)

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury.

rec'd a warrant
in favor of Patterson

Adge. apt. & uniform him,
that probably drafts will be soon
made in him for the whole
amount of \$50,000 - which
is now in receipt of which
it will be my concern for
the public creditors to take
them -

In my last letter
I stated near as I could
the whole amount of
deficit in the mint
which will probably
be needed by the
1st of October -

It will probably by all means
to call in ^{on other in person} enough for that that

Amount of ~~your~~ ^{your} ~~sum~~ of 50,000
men for contingencies

Soon after the day must I can

decide how much more

if any it will probably

be necessary to reduce the

must depart by the

remainder of the year

o

65

Mint of the United States
July 8th 1837

Ans^d

Sir,

I send you enclosed a most extraordinary note, which is one of a parcel of the same kind, received yesterday, from the Girard Bank, in payment of a check drawn by me on the government deposits, to my credit, in that institution.

I am sure, that it will not fail to meet a prompt and decided action on your part.

I am told, that another Bank in this city, (the Commercial, I think,) has ventured to try the same bold experiment upon the public.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

~~Aug^r Mr. G. return it. If the general Bk^r
does not pay him his public deposit
in such funds as he stands there or can
equivalent if desired - he will
bring to me a formal
demand in this & forward~~

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

46
J. W. Woodbury

certification of the demand hereof is
not made & I will take proper
legal steps in relation to the
subject & you will also furnish
a statement of the amount
which is deposited & which
the Bank desires to pay in or
ampliable manner

W



must have in a situation so as to be able to
to command the Spent, when needed -

Mint of the United States,

July 8th 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th, respecting the drafts which you are about to make on the Mint deposits. Your instructions shall be faithfully attended to.

In a letter sent to you on the 6th inst., I inquire what course I am to pursue with regard to our special deposits in the Bank of America. Your present communication is a satisfactory answer to my question; and I shall try to make some arrangement with Mr. Keble, by which the whole amount of your draft may be paid in New York.

I am sorry to inform you, that we are no longer receiving deposits of silver for coinage. Will you authorize me to purchase it and other bullion, at a premium, for the use of the government? I had, for a long time, doubts of the propriety of doing so; but they are removed by the existing circumstances, and I am now disposed to recommend it strongly. If done, it must be under the proviso in Sect. 12. of the law regulating the deposits

Copy of the original letter
by the Secretary of the
Mint of the United States
July 8th 1857

of public moneys, - approved in July 1836,
not under the deposit of a million authorized
by the new Mint law. It may perhaps be
a question for the Attorney General, whether the
proviso is still in force. To my judgment,
it appears, that it ought to be so, considered.
The transfers under it are stated to be "for supply-
ing metal for coinage," - while the Mint deposit
is "for the purpose of enabling the Mint to make
the returns to depositors with as little delay as
possible." The latter was limited to a million
(against my urgent remonstrances,) the former
is unlimited. The latter has answered its
purpose at the Mint admirably, and its
withdrawal or diminution would be a serious
injury: the former is needed for the general
wants of the government, and might be used
to a large amount, without interfering with
the objects of the Mint deposit. To me, they
appear to be quite independent of each other.

May I venture to make another suggestion to you? It is as to the expediency
of sending away our American coins to Europe, where
where they will be sold as mere bullion, whereas
Mexican dollars could be procured upon terms
at least as favorable. I am sure that
Mr. Newbold, or some other agent in New York

could easily
or foreign
from the
said, that
at New

Hon. Levi
Sec.

P.S. -
as per

amount
should not
to pay
D.
the Bank
a first
is notori

could easily make for you the purchase of bullion
or foreign coins necessary to meet the bills drawn
from the Mediterranean fleet on England. It is
said, that specie is becoming more abundant
at New York.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

P.S. — If the Bank of America calls
upon us for ^{its} certificates of Indemnity
old, amounting to nearly \$171,000, we
should not have on hand more than coins
enough to pay our depositors. I mean of
old. Do you still consider the claim
of the Bank of America for these coins
a just one, and must I pay it if made?
It is notorious that the claimants under

the French indemnity, was not paid
in gold, or, at all events, that the
Bank of America has, independently
of this sum, received partly more gold
than ~~they~~^{it} has paid. That Bank
has now \$200000 to purchase bullion
for the Mint. It seems hard that
when the government is actually in want
of coins, it should give up what it
has in possession, to a Bank which is
largely its debtor, and which does not
pay away any coins to its own custo-
mers — the government itself included.

MS 592 July 8
Albion

Albion 2/11. The Bk of America it is under-
stood has paid all the holders of certificates
under the Bank, partly in gold, partly
desired — but before the Mint is supplied
with fragments — Some complaints were made
in May on the subject, but they have all
remained — The gold, therefore, can be
up, unless wanted under what is done in
Mint deposits with the Bank of which you

Bank's draft on
Mint deposit

67

Mint of the United States,
July 8th, 1837.

Sir,

I received yesterday your letter of the 5th, containing the award of certain referees on claims made by the Contractors for the Branch Mint Building at Charlotte, — a letter to you from the Superintendent of that Mint, — and a receipt from the Contractors for \$22,304. — and no other papers. In your letter you mention a communication from the Commissioner, and a proposal as to the enclosure, which however were not received. May I pray you to have them forwarded, as they are necessary to enable me to give a satisfactory reply to your inquiries.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

Attend to this I repeat why a mistake

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury }

20

68

Print of the United States.
July 12th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th, returning the Friend Bank certificate which I had sent for your inspection. My reason for referring this matter to you, was that I considered an attempt, made by a Bank holding public deposits, to avoid all legal responsibility to redeem its notes with specie, a sufficiently grave matter for action by the Treasury Department. I am happy, however, to state, that the possibility of action is now removed, the scheme itself having been abandoned.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

(69)

Mint of the United States

July 20th 1837.

Sir,

In your letter of the 10th. inst. you enclosed a communication from Maj. McComb, the Commissioner for erecting the Branch Mint at Charlotte, and you ask my views respecting the enclosure, which he proposes, and the compensation to which he says he thinks himself entitled for his services.

I have had much correspondence on the subject of the enclosure, and I approve the simple and comparatively inexpensive plan, which has been at last chosen by Col. Wheeler. As to the out-houses belonging to the Superintendent's residence, I have only to hope that they are upon a plan of as little cost as possible.

I was very desirous, for reasons of convenience & security, that the Superintendent, who also act. as Treasurer, should reside in the Mint, and I accordingly, with your approbation, appropriated a part of the building for this purpose. His accommodation will, also, no doubt require certain out-buildings, and

if on a moderate and inexpensive scale,
I think they ought not to be objected to.

On the subject of the compensation
to the Commissioner, Maj. M. Comb, I am
entirely in the dark. I have never heard
what were the terms on which he under-
took the task, but I suppose it to be a
commission on his disbursements, and not
as he claims, a round sum to be agreed
upon after his work was completed.
He has certainly performed his duties very
faithfully, but it is impossible for me
here, to judge how much of his time &
labor may have been required in the
superintendence of a building erected by
contract, according to plans furnished by
this Mint.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

July 20th 1837.

D. Patterson Director of the Mint
approves the plan for the enclosure
of the Branch Mint at Charlotte
adopted by Maj. McComb.

Maj. McComb thinks he is entitled to
\$2000- for his services as superintendent.
In the letter of appointment Maj. M.C. was
informed that his compensation would be
a commission not exceeding 2% on the
amount of his disbursements. He has
received \$24100 leaving a bal. to be expd
of \$12.100- so that supposing Maj. M.C.
to expense the bal. his Commission on the
whole \$26.000- at 2% will be only
\$520.

Infer Mr. M. that
the Dept. cannot
allow any thing
beyond the original
arrangement - without
the consent of Com.
M.

701
MEMO

Mint of the United States.
July 20th. 1837.

Sir,

I have had under careful consideration the accounts of the Charlotte Branch Mint, referred to me by you, and enclosed in your letters of the 5th. and 10th. inst.

So far as it is possible for me to judge, I think all the extra charges, mentioned in the award of the Referees, dated 23^d June 1837, correct; with the exception of the following, viz

"428 projecting stone for cornices, at 2³/₄¢ \$1,777."

Against this charge, I feel it my duty to object, as being an item that ought fairly to be considered a part of the contract of the building.

The following is the true account of this matter.

On a post-script to a letter dated May 25th, 1836, written to me by Maj. Saml. M. Comb, the Commissioner for the erection of the Mint, he states, that, just as he finished his letter, the Contractors, Messrs Perry & Ligon, had called on him to beg, that he would invite my consideration to the cornices as laid down on the plan of the building, — as a brick cornice, with the projection given in the plan,

could not be made to stand; and they suggested the substitution of stone, either rough to be plastered, or dressed, as I might think best.

The difficulty thus presented by the Contractors was referred by me to the Architect, Mr. Strickland, who had furnished the designs. He stated, that the cornice could certainly be constructed in brick properly moulded for the purpose but that it might perhaps be more readily done by rough stone to be plastered, and he presented a plan for this purpose, in writing, which was sent by me to Maj. McComb.

In thus consenting to accommodate the Contractors, and suggesting a method for removing a difficulty brought forward by themselves, I had not the least intention to interfere with the contract, — for while the method proposed was easier, than that with bricks, it was also believed to be at least as inexpensive.

These views you will find confirmed by the enclosed communication from Mr. Strickland.

If, in consequence of any peculiar difficulty in procuring stone at Charlotte

(which the cornice
brick
cornice
then
allowed
to which
may be
If they
responsibility

Hon. Sec.
of War

(which I believe, however, not to exist,) the cost should be greater than that of brick specially molded for a brick cornice of the full projection contracted for, then the difference might perhaps be allowed, but this is the utmost allowance to which I could consent.

From the last item of the account, viz, "Painting stone cornice, \$25.", there seems to be some reason to think, that the Contractor may have made the cornice of dressed stone. If they have done so, it is on their own responsibility.

I return you all the papers on this subject, which you sent to me.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servt.

R. W. Patterson,
Director.

Exam & init
W

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

July 20. 1834

Director of the Mint - does not
object to any of the extra charges - for
the award by the Commissioners except
that for projecting stone for cornice

The departure from the Contract was
in consequence of a suggestion made
by the Contractors themselves and for
their convenience - and not considered
to involve a greater expense than the
original plan.

*Infer from this note
it cannot be
allowed
W*

M 539 July
W. H. C.

To/

Dr. R. C.

Director

ing in

duly co.

of that be
cornices

of that be
cornices

71
Philadelphia July 19th 1837.

To/

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint,
Sir,

Your letter of the 17th inst; asking information respecting the brick cornice of the building of the Charlotte Mint I have duly considered.

The plan I proposed in the design of that building was to construct a brick cornice with a proportionate projection according with architectural rule, which might have been executed by an encorblement of brick work alone, but, as I was called upon by you, to express an easier method of producing the projection required, I suggested a plan of using rough stone slabs, laid on the walls of the building endwise, so as to save the trouble and expense of frequent projecting bricks: — I do not consider that in this plan the design of the cornice was changed: —

The cornice as laid down in brick work could have been executed in

Philadelphia at as little cost as the substituted one, as far as I now understand the mode of its construction: — If the rough stone slabs were difficult to be had, that would in some degree enhance the expense.

As to any additional charge, which I understand to be made by the contractors, for the construction of the Mint according to my designs, I do not think it at all admissible for, the change was made to save the contractors from moulding bricks to suit its character, and the rough stone ^{was} proposed, in order to give, at once, the projection required by the elevation.

With great respect sir,
Your obt. serv^{ts}
William Strickland

Forwarded to Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, July 20th, by the Director of the Mint.

check

(81)

Mint of the United States

July 25th. 1837

Sir,

I have the pleasure to send you
herewith, 20 half-dimes of our new emission,
just coined. You will see that they are
fac-similes of the new dimes.

I will take the occasion presented
by your wish to have a remittance of gold
coins, to visit Washington at some early day,
and we can then settle the little account between
us.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.

R. W. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

arg. rpt. to
thanks for his
attention in
remitting
twenty five
cents

(82)
Mint of the United States,
August 15th, 1837.

Sir,

As the time is at hand when you desire to have a large part of our Mint deposits removed to Washington, I think it right to present to you a statement of the present condition of that deposits.

The fund furnished to the Mint by the government was \$1,000,000.

Of this amount there was placed with the Bank of America. \$ 600,000.
with the Girard Bank. 400,000.
and these banks were instructed to employ these sums for the purchase of bullion for the Mint, and pledged themselves to do so.

The Bank of America has furnished us, on this account, with the following amounts:

Silver bullion \$ 400,000.
Gold bullion 101,326.60
\$ 501,326.60

and it has honored our checks for Treasury Warrants, payable in coins, for \$68,125.00
of which from special deposits of silver coins in said bank \$47,151.11
leaving a balance on a/c. of bullion purchase 20,973.89
\$ 522,300.49
Leaving still due ----- \$ 77,699.51
\$ 600,000.00

The Girard Bank has furnished us
with gold bullion \$ 6,650.40
and there remains due from it 393,349.60
400,000.00

It thus appears, that the whole amount
of bullion, on the Mint Deposit, is
Of Gold \$ 107,977.00
Of Silver 400,000.00
Total \$ 507,977.00

We have paid in silver coins, Treasury
Drafts Nos 2048, & 1936. \$ 11,000.00
and (Dft. of Aug. 10 No 348, is expected
daily & coins ready. 45,000.00
\$ 56,000.00

Thus the deposit may be considered
as standing as follows.

Gold \$ 107,977.00
Silver 344,000.00
\$ 451,977.00

We have on hand
Of Gold Coins. \$ 162,645.00
Of Silver Coins. 243,796.73
\$ 406,441.73

And there are due from us, as follows:
Of Gold Coins, (French Indemnity
Money to Bank of America) \$ 120,000.00
To other Depositors. 53,666.09
Forward \$ 173,666.09

(Forward) \$ 173,666.09
Of Silver Coins, to various depositors 73,612.54
\$ 247,278.63

It is evident, from this statement, that Gold Coins cannot be furnished to the Government, without putting a stop to the prompt payment ^{to depositors} of gold bullion; or, even then, without still continuing to postpone the payment of the gold coins considered due to the Bank of America.

As to silver about \$ 100,000. might be transferred to Washington, without stopping our prompt payments of such deposits of bullion as are made to us in the present state of the bullion market.

The importance of the public deposits, in the operations of the Mint, has become so manifest in our experience, that I should yield it with the deepest regret.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.

A. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

{ P. S.

P.S. - It is proper to mention
that the whole amount of the Special
deposits made by the Mint in the
Grand Bank and the Bank of
America has been repaid by these
Banks.

As the Mts. are
supposed to require some
that less than with
probably be needed
the first the Mint
in Sept. - then even
anticipate when
I formerly report
on the subject -
But we may
want more at
present in this
month, though
to be paid again
for that - provided

you are able to spend
on small items for
about \$500 worth
American gold here
before the 1st of the
middle of Sept.
It will probably
contribute to
have with you
we now have
I suggest that
you may need
reduce the amount
of deposit as the
mint - but
see no error

Mint U.S. Aug. 15. 37

NE. 382 - Aug 19. 37
Walker

(83)

Mint of the United States,
August 16th, 1837.

Sir,

In my letter of yesterday, on the subject of the Mint deposits, an error was committed, which I take the earliest opportunity to correct.

It is there stated, that we have paid in silver coins, Treasury Drafts Nos 2048, & 1936, amounting to \$11,000. — This is correct as to coins paid, at the Mint. But the Treasury Drafts paid, at the Bank of America, on our checks upon our special deposits there, belong to the same class, so that ~~the~~ account should stand as follows.

Treasury Warrants & Drafts paid at the Mint, in silver coins,	\$ 11,000.00
---	--------------

Paid at Bk. of America, out of Mint Special Deposite.	47,151.11
---	-----------

Draft No 348. prepared for,	45,000.00
	\$103,151.11

instead of \$56,000. as I had stated it.

This is to be deducted from our whole original silver deposits of 400,000.00 and leaves this deposit, at present \$296,848.89

instead of \$344,000.00, as I had stated it in
my letter of yesterday.

So that the Mint deposits may be
considered as standing as follows:

Gold.....	\$ 107,977.00
Silver.....	296,848.89
	\$ 404,825.89

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson
(Director)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury



84

Mint of the United States,
August 17th, 1837.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 14th, with the extract of a letter to you from the Commissioner of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, relating to the charge for the cornice of stone in the Mint building.

It is clear, from the whole evidence, that a cornice of dressed stone, such as has been made, was never authorized. But, as it has been executed, and as both the Superintendent & Commissioner think it was advisable, I am not disposed to persevere in my objection to the charge of \$1177, allowed to the Contractors by the referees.

I am told, that the brick used in the building is of a very bad quality. If this be so, it could not be used for the cornice.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

H. M. Patterson,
(Director)

81
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

851

P.S. - I am every day more & more convinced how unfortunate is the location of the two gold mints.

Every thing has to be sent from here, and transported over land, at great expense & risk and delay. The proceedings at the Charlotte Mint were arrested for weeks, because the fly-wheel of the steam-engine could not be hauled in time from Charleston and now another difficulty remains, in the transportation of the fire-bricks for the furnaces, the waters in the canal & river being too low to admit their being forwarded. The acids, & materials of almost every kind have also to be sent in with the same risk & expense. It would have been vastly less expensive for the government to pay the cost of bringing the gold here, and sending the coins back. or, if there must be a special mint for these States, how much better would it have been to place it at Charleston.

(857)

Mint of the United States.
August 18th. 1837.

Sir,

I have the mortification to send you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, announcing a serious accident to the building, evidently arising from neglect or want of skill.

I am the less surprised at the accident, as I had heard from more sources than one, that the contract for that building had been executed in a most careless & slovenly manner. The Commissioner, Col. Fox, has been but rarely at Dahlonega, and cannot be said to have had any real superintendence over the work.

I shall consult with the Architect, who made the plans as to the best course to be pursued in these circumstances, and then again write to you respecting this unfortunate matter.

It seems to me now, however, that it will be proper to send, to both the Gold Mints, a confidential & skilful person, who may present us a true account of the execution of the work, and give instructions as to correcting

the errors, that have been committed, and completing the work that remains, — such as the section of the furnaces, &c. I know of no one competent to this task, except our Master & Refiner, Mr. Peals. The Gentleman who is to fill the corresponding office at New Orleans, Mr. Maxwell, could fulfill his active duties here, and I think, that such a mission would be of great importance. Do me the favor to say whether it would meet with your approbation. As to myself, it would be of serious inconvenience to be absent, for any time, in the present condition of things, from this centre of correspondence.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servant
P. M. Patterson
Director

To / Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secy. of the Treasury

P.S. — If you approve of the
mission of Mr. Peale, (which would
cost the government nothing more than
his personal expenses while absent,)
I would suggest the propriety of
delaying any final decision as
to the claims of the Contractors
for the Charlotte Mint, until his
report can be received as to the
execution of that work.

1
I hope you will authorize the

Secretary to Mr. Peale

" If you deem it necessary

otherwise it would

be better to substantiate

lighter work of material

2
Pleasant Delay

uniting to Charlotte

as to the claims then

till I hear submission or not

Mr. Peale goes

for the upper part of

the building as necessary

by the Inspector W

(Copy.)

Branch of the U. States Mint,
Dahlonga, August 6th, 1837

Dear Sir,

I conceive it to be my duty, however painful it is, to inform you that the walls of our Branch Mint Building are not sufficient to support the Groin Arches of the same above the basement story. As a proof of this, the first arch reared above the basement started the main front wall to such an extent, that the workmen, in the presence of one of the Contractors, were compelled to take it down. The other Contractor, (Dr. Tinsley) is absent; the one present (Mr. Towns) together with the workmen have determined that the walls are insufficient to support the arches above those of the basement. So that it appears, there is no alternative, but either to begin again & make new walls, support by patch work those already made, or dispense with the Groin Arches altogether above the basement story.

I have been waiting several days for the arrival of Col. Few, for the purpose of ascertaining his views upon the subject before writing this. He has not

yet arrived nor do I know that he
will come at all; consequently proceed
to give you my views alone. If new
walls are ordered, I believe there will be
a total failure on the part of the present
Contractors. If patch work is permitted
there will be an eternal dread by the
occupants of the building, so much so,
that there is some doubt whether it
will be occupied or not. I know of no
better plan than to dispense with all
the Goin Arches above the basement story
and substitute the common wooden floor,
protected by some preventive of fire.

As it is expected, that Col. Fox
will shortly arrive, he will no doubt
give you his views upon this interesting
subject, and which will come from the proper
person.

I am now more fully convinced than
ever of the propriety of
the Government's furnishing the Office
with suitable dwellings around the Mint
its Branches. I think, I heard you say
last winter, that you intended to urge the
necessity of this upon the Government. I
sincerely wish you would do so. Independent
of the risk of imperfect walls, no decent
& responsible man would like to seclude

his family in such a place, & the salaries are not sufficient to enable a suitable officer to furnish his own dwelling without some other consideration.

Dr. Tinsley informed me a few days since, that he should proceed shortly to Philadelphia, should he do so, he will no doubt call to see you.

None of the Officers or workmen have yet arrived here; I rec'd a letter some 6 or 8 weeks ago from Col. Wheeler stating, that a Mr. Baka (if I mistake not the name) would be on by the 1st. of this month for the purpose of putting up the Machinery &c. I am anxiously expecting my Colleagues, Mr. Mason & Dr. Farnum. I wish they were here, as I might avail myself of their counsel in all important matters touching the interest of our Branch Mint. I have for some time past apprehended some difficulty in the progress of our Br. Mint Building, and I am now extremely sorry, that my fears are more than realised.

I am, Sir, with usual esteem,
Your friend & humble servt.
(signed)

Jos. J. Singleton
Sup. Br. Mint. Geo.

To/
Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director &c.

McKenny

Mint of the United States
Aug. 25th, 1837.

Sir,

Dr. John H. Gibbons, Assayer
of the Branch Mint at Charlotte,
will have been sent with, and
will present an excellent opportunity
for the safe transmission of gold
coins ^{to Washington.} If you will cause a
Treasury Draft for \$50,000 to
be sent to us, the amount shall
be forwarded to you in quarter ea-
gles.

I presume the new place of de-
posit will be the Bank of the
Metropolis. If the Draft could
be made in their favor, and by
them be endorsed payable to Dr.
Jno. H. Gibbons, a proper and

regular voucher would thus
be presented to the Treasurer of
the Mint.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant

P. M. Satter

(Director)

Refer them to the Treasurer
of Let the Treasurer make out
a draft on favor of the fund
himself for \$500.00

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Respectfully,
Ben. C. Smith
Branch of

7/11

88

McKee

Mint of the United States
August 30th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you, that we have recd., from the Girard Bank, a quantity of silver, imported from South America, by Mr. Alsop, under the arrangements made for supplying our Mint Deposite. The value cannot be ascertained until after the whole of it is melted, — but it is estimated at upwards of \$100,000.

Dr. Gibbon will take on the \$50,000 in gold, on Friday, — because I promised it to you. But I must protest against the manner, in which the Treasurer of the U. States has chosen to arrange this business, and which places the whole risk & responsibility of the transportation in the Mint, while, under the law, we have really nothing to do with it. I asked that the Treasury Draft, made in favor of the Bank of the Metropolis, should be endorsed by them in favor of Dr. Gibbon, and sent on to our Treasurer. I had hoped that you would direct this course to be taken, &

I presume that you did so. But the Treasury
has informed me that this, our only legal
voucher, is to be retained in Washington, &
given up only on the delivery of the money.
(Under the peculiar circumstances, I
submit to this course now), — but I protest
against its being interpreted into a precedent
which I am ever to follow hereafter.

Very respectfully
Your faithful servt.
R. W. Patterson
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Adieu off your pen here
that hereafter I hope
to be able to ~~and~~ have
the difficulty of
responsibility
which he
mentions of things
we are obliged to submit
to some answers of
embarrassments
W

Wm (Mint of the United States.
Aug 31st, 1837.

Sir,

Dr. Gibbon left here yesterday to bid farewell to his family, which resides a few miles from the city. It is evening, - it is storming, - and Dr. Gibbon has not returned. I fear, therefore, that he will not be here to carry the \$50000 in gold to your special deposit in the Bank of the Metropolis. If he should fail to deliver it tomorrow evening, I have feared that there might be some uneasiness on the subject with you or at the Bank; and I have therefore judged it right to make this statement.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,
Director

To
Hon Lewis Woodley,
Sec. of Treasury

90

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 1st. 1837.

*L file
adus
Sept
Sir,*

On the 24th, ulto, I applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for his Warrant in my favor for \$6000, for the Branch Mints, to be distributed as follows:

New Orleans.	\$ 3000.
Charlotte.	1000.
Dahomega.	2000.

I received to-day your Draft for \$5000.

Let me pray you to inform me, first, what circumstances, connected with the appropriations, has caused the change in the whole amount. As they are drawn on, both here and at the Branch Mints, we cannot know how they stand.

In the second place, I beg you to let me know, how the \$5000 sent to me is distributed among the several Branch Mint Appropriations.

I am Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson,
Director

John Campbell Esq.
Treasurer of the U. S.

McKe

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 8th, 1837.

Sir,

A letter from the Treasurer of the United States, to the Treasurer of the Mint, of the 1st inst., contains the following paragraph.

"The balance of the \$1,000,000. in your hands as a depository, to my credit, is supposed to be in specie funds. Should this, however, not be the fact, and should there be ultimately a deficiency on this account, I presume some legislative provisions will be necessary to absolve you, as the accounting officers have no authority in this case."

I do not affect to say that our sensibilities have been touched by this letter.

We know, that the Treasurer of the U.S. does not suppose, that the Mint has really stopped specie payments, and is to be put upon a footing with the Deposit Banks. His difficulties are technical & certainly plausible, yet I think that they arise from a wrong view of the position which the Mint occupies with regard

to this matter. Certain moneys were furnished
to us, by transfer drafts, to be employed
for the purchase of bullion, "for supplying
metal for coinage" under the proviso in Sec.
of the Act of July 1836, regulating the deposit
of public moneys. The sums thus transferred
were, by instructions from the Departments,
kept, like all other unexpended funds, in
the Deposit Banks: viz. in the Bank of
America \$ 600,000, and in the Girard Bank
\$ 400,000. From the first of these deposits
we have purchased bullion amounting to
\$ 522,300.49, and from the second amtg. to
\$ 102,943.88, and this bullion I consider as
having constituted our true Mint Deposits.
For the balances, these Banks are still an-
-severable, and with them they are of course
to be considered payable in specie, but
surely no such claim can be made
upon us, for what has never been in
a form suitable for Mint operations.
I hope, however, that no
ultimate loss is to be looked for from
this transaction. At least, the Banks
promise, that all the balances shall be
paid to us in bullion, for procuring
which they entered into engagements with

me, at the time the funds were put into
their hands, and which engagements
have been complied with to the extent
stated above.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Order upon of approved
no difficulty will in the
and be expended from
the situation of the
deposits in the
Mint -

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secy of Treasury

I presume the object of the
Inquirer must be to know
if an exigency arises
how much more
specie the Mint
could pay on this

Mint of the United States
Sept. 20th 1837.

Sir,

I have duly received the letter from Col. Ignatius A. Few of the 9th inst., which you sent to me for my advice, with regard to the points respecting which he consults you.

On the 1st inst., Mr. Mason, the Coiner of the Dahlonega Branch Mint, set out for his destination, and went fully possessed of our views as to the course to be pursued in consequence of the reported failure of the groin arches. He is a skilful and sagacious mechanic, and I should feel perfectly willing to abide by his advice, after he shall have fully examined into the cause and amount of the injury; and to this effect I have written to the Superintendent, (Dr. Singleton. I think this matter, therefore, in proper train.

I should object to the substitution of tin for Zinc in the covering of the roof. I had too much experience of tin roofs at the University of Virginia, to place any reliance upon them; while we have in Philadelphia, ample experience of the efficacy of Zinc roofs, properly constructed.

I approve of the substitution of columns of wood for those of iron, as was done, after

Mint U.S. Sep^r 8. 37

drafts in the month of Sept^r 1837
I hope it may not be a balance in
the Mint of \$1,000,000
largely - but if it should be - will
you inform me how much sum
could be paid in those two
months ~~without loss~~

W. B. W.

M426 Sept 11
W. B. W.

Ignat
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McKo

Mint of the United States
Sept. 20th 1837.

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I should object to the substitution of tin for Zinc in the covering of the roof. I had too much experience of tin roofs at the University of Virginia, to place any reliance upon them; while we have in Philadelphia, ample experience of the efficacy of Zinc roofs, properly constructed.

I approve of the substitution of columns of wood for those of iron, as was done, after

full consideration, at the Charlotte Branch Mint,
Very respectfully
Your faithful servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Col
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury. }

Cyphrus Mr. L. L. L.

acutely

W

93
Mint of the United States
Sept. 21st. 1837.

WPKO
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th, enclosing a memorial from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, and asking my opinion with regard to it.

I have to state, in reply, that it has long become evident, that the clauses in the 2nd Sec. of the act of March 3^d. 1835 which limit the number of "subordinate workmen and servants" at the Branches of the Mint, to twenty for the New Orleans Branch, and five for each of the other Branches, would lead to great embarrassment, if not make it even impracticable to conduct the operations of those Mints. It was my intention, therefore, to ask an amendment of the law which should remove this limitation; but I have thought it would be useless to do so, until Congress should enter upon its regular session.

An appropriation for the enclosing of the grounds of the Dahlonega Mint will be necessary, and will be applied for at the proper time.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

J. M. Patterson,
Director.

454
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury }

93
Mint of the United States
Sept. 21st. 1837.

WFO
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th, enclosing a memorial from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, and asking my opinion with regard to it.

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An appropriation for the enclosing of the grounds of the Dahlonega Mint will be necessary, and will be applied for at the proper time.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

W
J. M. Patterson,
Director.

454
Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury }

94
Branch of the U. States Mint
Savannah 4th September 1837

to the Hon. Delegation from the State of Georgia
in the Congress of the United States,

Gentlemen by the 3^d Sec. of an act of Congress
creating the branch mints of the U. S. you will per-
ceive that the Subordinate Cashmen and Clerks
allowed for the Branches at Charlotte and at this place
is limited to the number five for each.

It now becomes my duty to state ~~to state~~ to you
that this number is insufficient to carry out the
intention of the law, and I know of no other source
by which the deficiency can be supplied except it is
by an Amendment which will add a number sufficient
for all the purposes of said law. Either best in some
person the power to supply those officers incident-
ally, or appoint them by the Amendment; the former
I believe to be preferable to the latter, upon the
ground that by the 3^d Sec. of an act supplementary
to the act establishing a mint and regulating the
coins &c. approved 15th January 1837 you will also per-
ceive that the Director of the Mint has the pow-
er to appoint with the approbation of the President
assistants &c. which in my opinion refers exclusively
to the Mint over which he presides. From this
I am ready to conclude that it would be equally as

reasonable for the Superintendents of the branch
Mints to be vested with power with the approbation
of the Director of the Mint to appoint necessary as-
=sistants &c. for the branches. The plan allowed for

our branch have already been judiciously disposed of
by the Director of the Mint, three to the Coining De-
=partment, and two to the Assaying Department. Now it
is well known to you, or at least you may reason-
=ably calculate that whenever we go into our Mint in
operations, the novelty, if nothing else will attract a
great many visitors, which we shall necessarily be
compelled to close our doors against, without we
can have a door keeper to wait upon them. And,
there are other indispensable duties to be performed, which
may be done by the door keeper. We have no such person
person allowed us, and no power to appoint one. Therefore
again, in all such establishments there is allowed
what is usually termed a Fireman, whose duties cannot
=not be dispensed with. In ours, we have none, and
the law makes no provision for such a person. —

With those so persons in addition to the five already
=of allowed by law I could make out to get along with
our branch mint operations. —

It is through you Gentlemen that I expect
be enabled to perform the duties imposed on the
Superintendent of our infant branch Mint. The
pride of a large portion of our fellow Citizens, and
who are now busily engaged in trying to resuscitate
our greatly injured Gold and Silver Currency? — While

in the exercise of your wisdom in this matter,
permit me respectfully to put you in mind of the
appropriation obtained at the last session of Congress
for the enclosure of the branch Mint at Charlotte
N.C. That appropriation was \$7500., which I
presume will do for our enclosure. Now, the
plain question presenting itself; is Georgia en-
titled to the same, I am sure you will join with
me in answering in the affirmative: And I am
equally certain that you will not permit our
Georgia to be behind her Sister N.C. in this
or any other connection having for its object the
prosperity of our branch mints. Should you
succeed in obtaining a similar appropriation for the
enclosure of our branch mint; the next question
to be determined by you is, under whose care and
direction is this work to be done; will ~~the~~ ^{the money} be
applied under the superintendence of one living three
hundred miles off, having no interest whatever
in the prosperity of the Institution, and at an addi-
tional expense for heavily expending the amount. Or
will it be applied under the directions and immediate
superintendence of one living directly on the spot, pos-
sessing all the anxiety which possibly could influence
a personal motive for the respectability and success-
ful operations of the Institution, and one who is
already under sufficient pay, oath, bond and
security; and moreover, one who takes much pride
in the faithful discharge of his official duties.

I will thank you to inform me as soon as
practicable of the prospects of an appropri-
-ation for said enclosure, and in what manner
if any, I am to get those two additional
persons for the aforementioned purposes.

Yours gentlemen are respectfully,
-your faithful friend
And humble servant

J. P. Singleton
Supt. D. C. Mint

Proprs: King, Catlett,
Oliver, Glascock,
Dutton, Gown,
Cleaveland, Hynes
& Greenland.

Washington City

95
McKe

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 23d, 1837.

Sir,
In your communication, of the 15th inst., to the House of Representatives, on the subject of the Unexpended Appropriations, after stating "the amount of money drawn from the Treasury and placed in the hands of disbursing officers or agents on the 1st of May last and at the present time," you add, "that both sums are much larger than they would otherwise be, in consequence of the unusual amount of deposits by Officers of the Mint."

The Officers of the Mint have not been able to understand this remark. We are aware of any deposits made by Officers of the Mint; and, if the phrase has reference to the deposit made with us for procuring bullion for Coinage, I presume that this money is not

McKe

95
Mint of the United States.
Sept. 23d, 1837.

Sir,
In your communication, of the 15th inst., to the House of Representatives, on the subject of the Unexpended Appropriations, after stating "the amount of money drawn from the Treasury and placed in the hands of disbursing officers or agents on the 1st of May last and at the present time," you add, "that both sums are much larger than they would otherwise be, in consequence of the unusual amount of deposits by Officers of the Mint."

The Officers of the Mint have not been able to understand this remark. We are aware of any deposits made by Officers of the Mint; and, if the phrase has reference to the deposit made with us for procuring bullion for coinage, I presume that this money is not

considered as out of the Treasury, since
your drafts upon, from time to time,
show the contrary.

As we do not therefore understand
the remark in your letter, and fear that
it may be misinterpreted in other
quarters, I hope you will excuse me
for asking an explanation of it, even
at a time when I know how fully
you are occupied.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

S/ Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury.

Adm. 21b & given
has the amt
returned by

Genl. Oke
as departed
by office of
the unit
W

1961

Mine of the United States.

Sept 26th, 1837.

McKean

Sir, give this to Mr Smith to copy

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 22^d inst, with the enclosed letter from Baron Humboldt.

On the 19th May, 1836, Mr. Gallatin sent me the same series of questions from Baron Humboldt, and I returned him the best answers, which it was in my power to give; but told him, that I would seek for more exact information, by making inquiries of gentlemen in the mining regions. I accordingly sent letters, containing copies of Baron Humboldt's questions, and proposing others of my own, to J. W. Russell, of Charlotte, N. C., and to Geo. N. Rose, of Dahlonega, Geo. — all of whom were as well informed on the subject of the American Mines as any individual, to whom application could be made. From none of them did I receive an answer.

I should be hopeless, therefore, of getting more exact information than is already in the possession of Baron Humboldt, were it not for

researches, which Mr. Peale has promised to make during his visit to the Mints at Charlotte & Dahlonega, at the former of which he is at present. I send him, to-day, a copy of Baron Humboldt's questions, and when Mr. Peale gets the information, for which I know he will diligently search, I will have the honor of writing to you again.

In the meanwhile, however, I may state my confident belief, that at least the half of all the gold produced from the U. S. Mint has been brought to this Mint; and that, at present in consequence of our making prompt payments in coin, the proportion is much larger.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Copy
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secy. of Treasury

Send a copy of this
to Prof. Seiber.
W

P.S. - I return you Baron Humboldt's
letter, of which I have preserved a
copy.

Sept 26
Letter from
Humboldt
McKean
Mint of the United States.
Sept. 26, 1837.
97
when Congress will probably pass some
provision on the subject of
By. offe
W

Sir,

A part of the Old Mint property
was sold for \$2000, and the transac-
tion was on the point of being closed,
when the drawing went in money matters
occurred, by the Banks suspending
specie payments, and the purchaser was
not able to get such money for pay-
ment, as we were authorized to receive.
He now makes offer of a Treasury
draft. Will it be received, at
the Treasury, as payment, for the pro-
perty in question? Being in some
uncertainty on the subject, I am forced
to trouble you with this inquiry.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

7/4
McKean
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

98
Mint of the United States,
October 6th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th, inst., with the accompanying documents, on the subject of the claim of Dr. Short.

It is true, that when the Officers of the Branch Mints were first appointed, I considered the clause of the 3d Sect. of the Act of March 3d. 1837⁵ requiring them to take their Oath of Office "before some judge of the United States," as in force, and I gave them instructions accordingly. A formal opinion given by the District Attorney at New Orleans led me afterwards to take a different view of the subject, and to consider that, as virtually Officers of the Mint, they were included under the 5th. Sect. of the Act of Jan'y 18, 1837, and might take their oath before "any court of record of any state."¹⁷

So far, then, as my first instructions delayed Dr. Short from entering legally upon "Office," his case is analogous to that of Dr. Farneri¹⁸, already decided by you; and, as

the salaries of the New Orleans Mint Officers
are very low, I should hope, that he might
obtain the relief for which he asks. I feel it
my duty, however, to state, that, in some other
points, Dr. Hort's case does not present so strong
a claim as Dr. Farnum's. The latter asked the
salary, only from the time, that he actually
put himself under my orders, resigned his
professorship, and set out for Philadelphia
in compliance with my instructions. I wrote
to Dr. Hort, announcing his appointment, on
the 6th, of March, and the first letter I
received from him was dated at New Orleans
the 25th, of April. He has told me, however,
that he had answered my first letter, - that
this answer never came to hand. Dr. Hort did
not leave New Orleans till after the 22d of March,
and did not reach there till the 13th, of April.

While with us, he showed a great degree
of assiduity and talent, and I have no doubt,
that he will make an excellent Office. I should
be glad, therefore, if his claims could be allowed.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.
R. M. Patterson
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Chy of Treasury

West U.S. Oct. 2. 37
Office the Clerk of
Court

Treasury Department
Treasury Comptroller's Office

August 2^d 1837

Your letter of yesterday date was
presented to me this morning, in which you
state that on the 3^d of April last you received
from the Director of the Mint a blank bond in
favor of you, which with you were directed to
take before a Judge of the Ct. that if guided by
your own opinion of the law, you could
have taken it on that day before a District
or Circuit Judge, but that acting under
the orders, twenty three days elapsed before
the execution of such writ and you were
subjected to expense of travel.

Essex - 1/2

Under these circumstances, you submit
the question whether you may be permitted to
charge for delay from the time at which you
received the writ until its execution.

150. P.M.
11/11

Treasury Department,
 Comptroller's Office.

August 2^d. 1837.

Sir :-

Your letter of yesterday's date was presented to me this morning, in which you state that on the 3^d of April last you received from the Director of the Mint a blank bond and oath of office, which oath you were directed to take before a Judge of the U.S.; that, if guided by your own opinion of the law, you could have taken it on that day before a District or Circuit Judge: but that, acting in obedience to his orders, twenty three days elapsed before the execution of such oath and you were besides subjected to expenses of travel.

Under these circumstances, you submit the question whether you may be permitted to charge for salary from the time at which you received the instructions referred to?

In reply, I have to observe that the
 fact

Act establishing the Branches of the mint provides, That before entering upon his duties, The officer shall take an oath or affirmation before some Judge &c. - and That the rule of the Department, in the settlement of accounts, has been invariably to consider the date of the oath as fixing the time at which the salary should commence. -

It does not appear That you performed any duty connected with your trust, prior to the taking of the oath: and, I may add, That an act performed without due qualification by law could have no validity. -

Upon full consideration, therefore, I see no reason why your case should be made an exception to the rule which has been uniformly observed, - the law itself, and not the direction, of an officer, being the guide. -

I am, very respectfully:
Your obt. servt.

William P. Hoot Esqr.

Payee: Br. Mint, New Orleans.

Geo. M. H.

Comptroller.



First Comptroller's office

George

William P. Hort Esq.

Apayer: Br: Mint, New Orleans.

care of Mr J. H. Hough

at Gadsby's Washington

Rev^{ble} S. P. Benton
U.S. Senate

(100)

New Orleans 1 Sep 1837

Sir, May I take the liberty requesting your friendly assistance in the settlement of a claim against the Treasury Dept. I will briefly state the facts. On the 3rd ap. I received a letter from Dr. Patterson enclosing a blank bond & oath of office, which last I was particularly instructed to take before a U.S. Judge. I had inferred from the last relative to the Mint Vits branched that the oath could be taken before a Circuit Judge, & I could & should have so taken it the same day, but acting in obedience to the instructions of the Director of the Mint, I set out in search of a U.S. Judge, & the late Judge Raper having left this City, it was on the 25th of April that I accidentally met Judge Adams of the State of Mississippi before whom I took the oath.

I therefore lost 22 days salary amounting to \$120. 54
besides my travelling expences 54. 00
174. 54

In passing through Washington City, I mentioned the case to Mr Woodbury, who referred me to Mr Wolf. Mr Wolf told me to submit my case to him in writing, & that he would give his opinion in writing, which would be adverse, but from which, I could appeal to Mr Woodbury, as he had already overruled a decision of Mr Wolf in a similar case - that of Dr. Farnum.

Dr. Patterson now avers that the oath may be taken before a Circuit Judge, & has accepted oaths of office so taken.

It appears a hard case that I should forfeit 22 days salary & lose besides out of my own pocket \$54 simply for acting in obedience to the instructions of my Superior Officer.

It is true as Mr Wolf observes that I had rendered no service prior to the time of taking the oath, but from the time I heard of my appointment, I abandoned my profession, & held myself subject to orders, I did actually receive orders 22 days before I took the oath, which I obeyed, & which implies that I was recognised as an officer, & held subject to orders.

Some urgent private business caused me leave Washington immediately, or I would have made the appeal suggested by Mr Wolf, personally to Mr Woodbury.

I find that the duties of the apayer will occupy if not all, at least so large a portion of my time as to make it impracticable to combine any city practice as suggested by you in a former letter.

Tendering you my most grateful acknowledgements for the favours already conferred on me I remain very respectfully
Yours &c
Wm. P. H. O.

M.K.

101

Senate Chamber,
Sep. 15. 1837.

Sir,

I enclose you the letter of Dr. Hort,
messager of the Mint in New Orleans, and
the letter of the ^{1st} Comptroller of the Treasury,
him, in which the two sides of the
question are fully exhibited on ~~you~~
which your decision is requested.

Dr. Hort appeals from the
decision of the Comptroller, and I
think he states a fair case for the
help which he solicits.

Yours respectfully,

Edw. G. Phelps
W
Thomas H. Benton.

Treasury Department
 First Comptrollers Office
 17th October 1837.—

Sir:—

I have examined the explanatory letter of Doct. Patterson with the accompanying papers in the case of Dr. Fort, Assayer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, which has been referred to this office and respectfully submit the following report.—

The Commission of Dr. Fort, as Assayer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans bears date the 13th of March 1837, the oath of Office according to his letter to Col. Benson was not taken until the 25th of April ensuing.—

Doct. Patterson admits the misapprehension he laboured under in regard to the person by whom the oath was to be administered but points out an evident distinction between the case of Dr. Fort & Dr. Far-
 num the latter having only asked his salary from the time he put himself under his Doctor P's orders while the former although written to on the 6th of March did not reply until the 25th of April following the very day on which he took the oath of Office; at which time, it would seem, he had not left New Orleans, nor did he leave the City, according to Doctor Patterson until after the 22^d May, so that although he may have abandoned his profession and held himself subject to orders he did not, if Doct. Patterson's statement is correct, obey orders until a month had nearly elapsed after he had taken the oath.—

(The)

The rule, by which the accounting Officers have hitherto been guided in fixing the time for the commencement of the Salaries of public Officers, is refer to the date of the Oath of Office - With this rule the directions of 5th Section of the Act establishing the Branches of the Mint are in strict conformity, inasmuch as the oath or affirmation is made to precede the Officer's entering upon his duties. —

If, therefore, there was no rule of the Department on the Subject, it would seem that upon a fair construction of the Act no official duty could be performed anterior to the taking of the oath; and it would scarcely be contended that the Salary could commence before the Officer was legally qualified to act. But if Doct. Patterson is right in his facts there was really no obeying of his orders on the part of Doct. Host until after the oath was administered, and in that view of the case there exists no fair claim for remuneration in consequence of such obedience. —

With great respect
Yours Obed^t Serv^t

Geo. Ross
Comptroller

Honble. Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treas^y }

Mint of the United States,
October 6th, 1837.

Li,

I pray you, unless the necessities of the department are of the most imperative kind, not to draw on us for any more coins. The day before yesterday, we sent Mr. Newbold \$100,000. (French Indemnity) in gold, and \$29,955.61 in silver, and we still owe him \$77,699.51. The remittance was, in part, on account of a Treasury Draft, in his favor, for \$35,000. We had notice, yesterday, of two other drafts amounting to \$14,750.

Our deposit & coinage accounts stand at present as follows.

Whole amt. of silver bullion received on this account \$51,267.37

(Do gold bullion, " " " " 107,977.00

Total. . \$ 625,244.37

Silver coins drawn by Treasury Draft \$ 191,420.61

Gold do, do 65,044.39

Total . . . \$ 256,465.00

Balances left on deposit.

Silver \$ 325,846.78
 42,932.61

Gold 42,932.61

\$ 368,779.37

Silver Coins on Hand \$ 205,041.00

Gold Do " " 59,775.00

Total.. 264,816.00

Coins due to depositors.....

Silver..... \$ 146,436.90

Gold..... 54,046.20

Total.. 200,483.20

Coins now free,

Silver..... \$ 58,604.60

Gold..... 5,728.70

Total.. 64,333.40

The above statement scarcely needs a comment. It is evident that the Mint cannot bear further drafts, and still continue to make prompt payments to depositors when called upon, as it has uniformly done, for several months. The benefit of this arrangement, which depends entirely upon our public deposits, is fully appreciated by those, who bring us bullion, and thus, I have reason to know, brought much to the Mint, which would otherwise have gone into the Manufacturer's hands, or been exported. I have been assured, by more than one of our most frequent depositors, that none of their bullion would now be brought to the Mint, were it not for the promptitude with which they are repaid, namely, as a general rule, on the third day.

This system is particularly important to the depositors of small sums, and we have been surprised to observe how much the proportion of small deposits has increased. To show this, I enclose a statement of the deposits made at the Mint during the last quarter.

I look to you to save us from the necessity of abandoning a system so long desired, and which has proved so beneficial.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

R. W. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

*Ady. 24th - I inform
him that of the \$100,000
deficit the 1/2 - a million
or contemplation - the deficit
will not be oblig'd to draw any
money out from the Mint
W.*

Statement of Deposites

from 1st July 1830 to Sept. inclus.

104

Gold

Silver

1837		1837		1837		1837			
July	3	511 92	Aug. 18	621 54	July 3	316 37	Sept. 1	16 87	
"	5	3 15 46	"	210 18	"	103 56	"	2	109 67
"	6	1987 55	"	516 07	"	44 97	"	11	100 24
"	7	4470 09	"	321 43	"	99 86	"	13	1373 93
"	8	3073 54	"	506 77	"	360 45	"	"	87 77
"	9	202 72	21	97 47	"	165 40	"	"	112 99
"	10	297 88	"	87 67	"	27 93	"	"	9058 22
"	12	2146 75	"	8193 31	"	19 14	"	"	17 05
"	14	2114 19	"	908 03	"	334 95	"	"	1654 75
"	15	246 05	"	1360 36	"	1508 21	"	"	4993 12
"	"	334 85	"	134 92	"	114 27	"	"	166 58
"	15	1985 06	"	2043 74	"	742 17	"	"	11 69
"	"	1349 63	24	299 04	"	96 17	"	"	147 8
"	"	108 76	"	603 65	"	12 97	"	"	389 55
"	17	1468 26	"	370 93	"	104 38	"	"	4010 58
"	18	155 39	26	296 24	"	767 71	"	"	993 86
"	"	934 58	"	1114 44	"	334 23	"	"	4596 73
"	19	29 79	28	1255 81	"	100 30	"	20	19093 33
"	20	325 46	"	325 84	"	101 72	"	23	257 11
"	"	461 66	"	742 16	"	415 76	"	"	137 60
"	"	187 93	29	299 24	"		"	25	98 90
"	"	375 34	"	1499 74	Am. for July 6	409 29	"	"	2387 83
"	24	5343 18	"	1550 83	"		"	27	29589 93
"	"	642 75	"	771 13	"		"	30	860 52
"	25	2078 47	30	425 06	Aug. 1	603 24	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	26	235 910	31	782 66	"	33907 70			
"	29	2695 87	"	316 90	"	3012 26	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	2847 29	"	583 40	"	346 53			
"	31	597 75	"	1345 70	"	1028 11	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	31	23701 64	"	129164 45	"	32444 09			
for July	61	436 52	Sept. 1	974 85	"	11 69	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	112 20	"	1992			
"	"	"	"	118 07	"	20 93	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	211 16	"	322 33			
"	"	"	"	213 82	"	106 02	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	485 56	"	176 48			
"	"	"	"	2315 56	"	93 03	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	999 50	"	193 48			
"	"	"	"	805 26	"	120 94	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	391 68	"	242 44			
"	"	"	"	120 28	"	59 98 99	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	470 94	"	23 74			
"	"	"	"	350 34	"	1026 62	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	461 55	"	244 77			
"	"	"	"	437 43	"	146 73	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	223 45	"	422 71			
"	"	"	"	260 44	"	12 04	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	785 36	"	317 61			
"	"	"	"	558 92	"	247 83	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	2084 55	"	96293 48			
"	"	"	"	269 47	"	7065 24	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	160 32	"	15209			
"	"	"	"	670 81	"	2033 86	Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	707 86	"				
"	"	"	"	399 26	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	111 70	"				
"	"	"	"	807 67	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	1594 00	"				
"	"	"	"	297 59	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	4992 61	"				
"	"	"	"	1548 83	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	225 95	"				
"	"	"	"	2432 69	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	2136 48	"				
"	"	"	"	1158 32	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	324 53	"				
"	"	"	"	235 71	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	585 56	"				
"	"	"	"	359 72	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	1459 46	"				
"	"	"	"	409 51	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	360 61	"				
"	"	"	"	149 60	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	143 54	"				
"	"	"	"	85 55	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"	2073 63	"				
"	"	"	"	233 67	"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
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"	"	"	"		"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"		"				
"	"	"	"		"		Am. for Sept. 99,236 35		
"	"	"	"						

105

Mint of the United States,
October 17th, 1837.

ack

Sir,

On the 26th, ult., I wrote to you to ask whether a Treasury Drafts could be received at your Department, in payment for certain property belonging to the Old Mint, and sold by order of government. On the 28th, you answered my letter, and asked that I should take no further steps in this matter, until the action of Congress, as to the public currency, was known. The Session being now over, and the purchaser of the property having renewed his application to make payment by treasury drafts, I take the liberty of again asking whether I may receive it, - or rather whether it will be received by the Treasurer of the United States, as a legal payment.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.H. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

Yes - if the drafts
have not been
refused to receive them
W

Hon Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

106

Mint of the United States,
October 23d, 1837.

check
Sir,

The Bank of the United States paid to us this morning, in gold and silver coins, the balance due on their first bond to the government for stock held in the late Bank, - this balance amounting to \$522,459.71; and this sum is held, in the Mint, as a special deposit, to the credit of the Treasury of the United States, - the official certificates of which deposit are forwarded to the Solicitor of the Treasury.

I will have the honor to write to you, again, an answer to your inquiries as to the form in which we deem it most convenient that this deposit shall remain.

The payment was made in silver coins due by the Mint for a deposit made by the Bank on the 17th inst., — \$103,500.41

And in American Gold Coins. 418,959.30

\$522,459.71

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

R. M. Patterson, Dir.

Charles Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

Oct. 23

by the B
to on the

McK

107

Mint of the United States,
October, 27th, 1837.

Sir,

In your letter of the 21st, inst., you ask me "whether it will be more agreeable and convenient, that the amount (of the cash payment made by the Bank of the United States,) should remain on special deposit to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States to be paid out on his drafts, or that it be transferred to the Treasurer of the Mint for the purposes authorized by the acts of Congress of 1792 and 1836 and '37, to be withdrawn as the exigencies of the government may require."

You are aware of my great anxiety to keep up, as far as possible, the integrity of our Mint deposits, which is of such signal benefit in the transactions of the Mint, and which has been necessarily encroached upon in consequence of the exigencies of the government.

Of the Million transferred to the Mint, under the 31st Sect. of the ^{act of the} 18th of January 1837, and which was deposited in the Bank of America and Girard Bank to procure us bullion for coinage, these Banks still owe — — —

51-
M

Mint U.S.

owe	\$ 349,429.97
viz, the Bank of America,	77,699.30
and the Girard Bank.	271,730.67
We have received in bullion from these Banks, the balances of	650,570.00
And of this, there has been withdrawn, in coin by the Treasurer of the United States,	270,315.00
Leaving our actual Mint deposits, in bullion and coin, reduced to	380,255.00
	380

The payment made by the Bank of the United States, which amounted to \$522,459.71, gives the opportunity of making whole our deposits if you deem this course not incompatible with the requisitions of the Treasury; and I would, therefore, respectfully suggest to you the expediency of this course, and would ask that you should issue your Warrant, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for two hundred and seventy thousand three hundred and fifteen dollars to be deposited in the Mint under the conditions of the 31st. sect. of the act of January 18, 1837, and to be paid out of the special deposits made in the Mint on the 23d. instant.

This is the utmost, that can be done, under the act of January last, as it will, with the amount in the Banks, bring our deposits up to the limit of one million.

The provision in the 14th, Section of the
Act of 1792 I consider as repealed by
the act of 1837, in which it is replaced with
different conditions. (The question has not
yet seriously arisen, whether Col. Bent's
proviso, in Sect. 12 of the deposit law of 1836,
is not also repealed by the Mint Act of 1837,
but it has always been my wish to consider
our deposits as made under the Mint Act,
and subject to its provisions alone.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.
R. M. Patterson
Director.

See if any repeal of proviso of 1836

& report on the same,
& whether best referred to them
& then put before in
Mays. Also as drawn
out of the mint by
Directors in the
from time to time

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

W.R.

Mint of the United States.
Nov. 24, 1837.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 31st ult., presenting your views with regard to the public moneys furnished to the Mint, under the Deposit Act of 1836, and the Mint Act of 1837. Of the correctness of these views I have no doubt, and we shall follow your instructions by arranging our accounts accordingly.

They will open as follows:

U. S. Bullion Account.

Balance of \$700,000 deposited Aug. 8, and Nov. 28, 1836, under the Provision in Sect. 12, of the Deposit Act of 1836, - - - - - \$429,685.00

U. S. Mint Deposit Account

By Amount deposited Feb. 2^d, 1837,
under the 31st Sect. of the Mint
Act of 1837, — — — — — \$ 300,000.
" Payment from U. S. Bank
rec^d. Oct. 23^d, 1837, and trans-
ferred to the above account, by
order of the Secretary of the Treas-
ury, Oct 31st, — — — — — 522,469.
\$ 822,469.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. W. Satterlee,
Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury. }

S. Nov 27
Money

McKean

109
Mint of the United States,
November 27th, 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th, inst., respecting the transfer-draft of \$30,000, in favor of the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N.C., to be paid here, from time to time, for the purpose of redeeming the bullion certificates issued at that Branch, and presented to us.

This arrangement is the result of a correspondence between Mr. Wheeler and myself; and, as I am anxious that you should understand my precise views with regard to it, I take the liberty of stating them now.

69
Mr. Wheeler's original proposition was, that a regular system should be established, by which the certificates issued at his Branch should be cashed at this Mint. To this system, I objected altogether, — "as amounting to nothing more nor less than asking the government to transport, for the merchants of certain limited districts, funds, free of risk and expense, to the commercial cities, when they are wanted to pay for their merchandise. Such a proposition," I remarked,

“could hardly fail to be considered unfair and unequal, nor can I see any sufficient motive to make the government submit to the cost and risk, that must attend it. At present gold bullion is brought to the north, by the merchants themselves and is promptly exchanged for coins at the Mint. According to the proposed scheme, either the coins must accumulate in the Branch-Mints, and our deposits be exhausted, or the coins from the Branches must be sent forward, from time to time, to supply the drain upon our vaults, and, as I have already remarked, must be done at the public cost and risk. Such an arrangement would no doubt increase the amount of coinage at the Branches, but it would not increase the amount of coinage in the country, and I cannot therefore see how the public would be benefited by it.”

I then remarked to Mr. Wheeler that “a legitimate method of gaining his object would be to ask the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer to him, in gold coins, a certain amount, say \$30,000 or \$50,000, to enable him to purchase bullion for coinage, under Col. Benton's proviso in the 12th Sect. of the Act of July 1836, regulating the public deposits.”

It is in consequence of this suggestion, that Mr. Wheeler has asked the transfer draft which you have given him. The most direct method for accomplishing this transfer would have been to send on the whole amount, by which means our accounts would have been kept entirely separate from those of the Charlotte Branch, and this would have been much preferred by our Treasurer. The method of our cashing the Charlotte Certificates will, however, soon produce the transfer indirectly, and then, I hope, this operation will be finally arrested. It will certainly be so, if you approve, as I feel confident you will, the views which I have presented above.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.
P. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

Ever respectfully
h

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States,
December 4th, 1837

Sir,

Agreeably to my last report
of the deposits and coinage of gold at the
Mint, there remained uncoined on the 31st October.
\$55,570.

(Deposited in November.)

Bullion of the United States,	11,540.
Foreign Bullion & Jewelry,	33,880.
Coins of the United States, old stand,	7,575.
Foreign Coins.	34,990.
	<u>87,985.</u>
	143,555.

Amount of gold coinage within the
month of November, 3504 half eagles. 17,520.

Amount remaining uncoined, Nov. 30th, \$126,035.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.

A. W. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States.
Dec. 5th, 1837.

Sir,
I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, two pairs of dies for the Branch Mint at Charlotte, enclosed in a box, and have respectfully request that you will forward them, according to the address, under your frank. There will certainly be some expense done at that Mint, before the close of the present year, but it is the only one of the Branch for which I have this hope.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director

added to this
W

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

(112)

Mint of the United States,
(December 11th, 1837.)

Key

Sir,

The Branch Mints are on the point of going into full operation, one of them, - that at Charlotte, - having already begun to receive deposits. (This will increase very sensibly the business of my office, not only as to correspondence, but for procuring the various materials wanted at those Mints, and nearly all of which, I find, must be sent from Philadelphia. While there were Branch Mint Officers here, they aided me in these commissions; - now that they are all gone, I have no assistance, which I can properly demand, for all the officers and clerks of this establishment are fully engaged.

Under these circumstances, I find myself under the necessity of applying, through you, to the President, for his approbation to my employment of a Director's Clerk, to be particularly attached to my own office.

There are at present but three Clerks in the Mint, and they are all in the Treasurer's department. My copying has heretofore been done by one of these, and my accounts, connected with the Branch Mints, have been kept by Mr. (DuRoi) the Assistant Assayer. This arrangement is inconvenient, and the time is at hand when it will be no longer sufficient or practicable.

It is proper to state that there was a Director's Clerk when I came into the Mint, but that I was induced to forego the aid of such an assistant, in order to fill the indispensable place of Clerk of the Weigh Room.

If the President shall think proper to accede to the request made in this letter, I will beg leave to name Mr. George F. Durning of Brunswick, Maine, for the situation, and to propose that he receive an annual salary of seven hundred dollars. - Mr. Durning was, till lately, in the counting-house of his brother, a merchant of this city, and he is recommended to me as a young gentleman of good education, and of unexceptionable moral character.

What
but
and
him
Con
Sec.
D. J.
applic
3d,
1846,

Although I have seen Mr. Durning,
I have scarcely any knowledge of him,
but he is recommended to me by one
of our officers, Mr. DuBois, who knows
him well, and on whose judgment
and sincerity I can fully rely.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servt.
R. W. Patterson,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

P.S. The law under which the above
application is made, will be found in the
3d, and 7th, sections of the act of January
18th, 1837.

Check & return this to me
for the P. W.

McKean

Mint of the United States,
(December 18th, 1837.)

Sir,

I send you herewith a requisition for \$3700. on account of the three Branch Mints, and it is, as I believe, the last that I shall make directly of the Department. All the machinery, apparatus, and materials having been fully and liberally supplied. Articles will continue to be wanted from here, but these must be supplied from the annual appropriations, and it is my wish, in order to prevent confusion, that the funds, even if expended here, should be furnished by the respective Branches. But, however this may be finally arranged, the expenses of the outfit of the Branch Mints will, as I have reason to think, be entirely paid by the present requisition, so far as my agency is concerned.

About \$1450 dollars of this amount has arisen from the detention of the funds sent on to erect the machinery at Charlotte and Dahlonega, because the materials could not be conveyed from the ports to these places. Before they were sent on, I was officially

informed of the arrival of much of the machinery - was assured that the remainder might be expected immediately, - and was urged to send forward the men who were to put up the engines &c. The men were accordingly sent, and when they arrived they found that the waters were so low, that the machinery could not be brought forward, and the consequence was a most vexatious and expensive delay.

I feel some uncertainty whether enough of the appropriations remain undrawn to enable you to answer the present call. I pray you to inform me, if this is not the case, as a new appropriation would be rendered absolutely necessary.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant
R. M. Satterlee
Director

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

~~clear & properly as per
am 1/4~~

Mint of the United States
Decem: 20th 1837.

Sir,

The following detailed Statement of my estimates for the Mint and its Branches for 1838, is respectfully submitted in reply to your request of the 18th inst, received this day.

1st Mint of the United States, at Philadelphia

The appropriation for the year 1837, including an item of \$20,000 for new Machinery, was \$101,800

On the 31st, December 1836, there remained a balance in hand, of the appropriation for 1836, of . . . 18,550

The profits of the Copper Coinage of 1837, which become a part of our Ordinary fund, by act of Jan'y: 18th, 1837, are fairly rated at . . . 10,000

The credits of profit & loss, that is, the deductions from Deposits, for the present year will probably Amount to . . . 6,000

Available funds for 1837. \$=136,350

The whole amount of expenditures, ordinary and Extraordinary, within the year 1837, based upon what was paid in ten months, and inclusive of the wastage, is estimated at . . . 95,850

Probable Balance, Decem: 31st, 1837. \$ 40,500

See also statement
Aug 20 1837 for 1838

See
Mint

If the estimate for 1838 be made without respect to that balance, or to any sources of gain, we should be obliged to ask —

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$,20,400
For wages of Workmen	23,000
For Mastage, supposing the Coinage	
May be $3\frac{1}{2}$ Millions of dollars	13,000
For incidental & Contingent expenses, including iron, steel, lead, Castings, Copper, Zinc, tallow, oil, Chemical Agents, melting-pots, Crucibles, Stationary, water rent & taxes	26,500
For new machinery, viz: one ten-horse steam Engine for the Coining press, a Steam Coining press, and sundry smaller articles	8,600
	91,500.

From this Amount we deduct

Probable balance of 1837. \$40,500.

Probable gain from Copper Coinage 10,000.

Profit & Loss 6,000 56,500.

Leaving the Amount asked of Congress. \$ 35,000.

which, with what we have and shall have from other sources, will be sufficient to cover the whole expense for 1837.

Upon that basis, the following formal Estimate is submitted, differing slightly from that sent on the 24th Novm.

particularly

particularly in regard to the item for clerk in the Directors office, which is found necessary here, and has been approved by the President. ~

An Estimate of the Expenses of the Mint of the United States, at Philadelphia, for the year 1838.

For Salaries of Officers, Assistants & Clerks	Dollars	Dollars
The Director	3,500	
The Treasurer	2,000	
The Chief Coiner	2,000	
The Assayer	2,000	
The melter & Refiner	2,000	
The Engraver	2,000	
The Second Engraver	1,500	
The assistant Assayer	1,300	
Three Clerks in the Treasurers office two at \$1200 each, and one at \$1000	3,400	
One clerk in the Directors office	700	25,400
For Compensation to Labourers	\$14,600	
Total	\$35,000	

2nd Branch at New Orleans

The Estimate for this Branch, transmitted on the 24th of November, was submitted to the Officers at New Orleans and approved by them; The heads of Appropriations are -

1st, For Salaries of Officers & Clerks - the amount fixed by law is asked for this item; \$12,900.

2. For Compensation to labourers, 22,000. This was based upon the number limited by law, which is twenty, and an average of ninety dollars per month to each workman.

The rate of wages in that city, for workmen of the same class, requires such an Appropriation.

3^d. For Incidental & Contingent Expenses, \$27,100. In making this estimate, respect was had to their probable wants, and to the enhanced price of materials at New Orleans.

The wastage was assumed as proportionate to a Coinage of three Millions of dollars

An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint
at New Orleans for the year 1838

	Doll	Doll
For Salaries of officers & clerks		
The Superintendent	2,500	
The Treasurer	2,000	
The Coiner	2,000	
The Assayer	2,000	
The Melter & Refiner	2,000	
Two Clerks, \$1200 each	2,400	12,900
For Compensation to labourers		22,000
For Incidental & Contingent Expenses		
Wastage of Gold & Silver	12,000	
Iron, steel, lead, castings, Chemical Agents, Copper,		
zinc, oil, tallow, Crucibles, Melting pots & repairs	8,000	
Wood & Coal for the Steam Engine and furnaces,		
and for the different offices	6,000	
Stationary, water, rent & Taxes	1,100	27,100
		12,000

3 Branch Mint at Charlotte.

The estimate heretofore furnished, for this Branch, was approved by the Superintendent. It consists of three items:

1st For Salaries of Officers & Clerks, \$5,000, the amount fixed by law.

2. For Compensation to laborers, \$3,500. This allows an average of sixty dollars per month to five workmen, the number limited by law.

3. For Incidentals & Contingent Expenses, \$5,400. It is presumed, there will be a coinage of half a million of dollars; upon this basis we have calculated wastage and materials, having regard to the fact that most of the materials, must be procured at a considerable distance from the location of the Mint.

*An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint
at Charlotte, for the year 1838.*

	Dolls	Dolls
<i>For Salaries of Officers & Clerks</i>		
<i>The Superintendent</i>	<i>2,000</i>	
<i>The Assayer</i>	<i>1,500</i>	
<i>The Coiner</i>	<i>1,500</i>	
<i>One Clerk</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>6,000</i>
<i>For Compensation to Labourers</i>		<i>3,000</i>
<i>For Incidental and Contingent Expenses</i>		
<i>Wastage of Gold</i>	<i>2,000</i>	
<i>Iron, Steel, lead, Castings, Chemical Agents, Copper, Zinc, Oil, tallow, Crucibles, Melting pots & repairs</i>	<i>2,000</i>	
<i>Wood & Coal for the Steam Engine and fur- naces, and for the different Officers</i>	<i>1,000</i>	
<i>Stationary & taxes</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>5,400</i>
		<i>\$ 15,000</i>

4. Branch at Dakhonega

The Estimates for this Branch having been forwarded, before the views of the Superintendent in relation to it were received, some alterations are proposed, mainly in accordance with his suggestions.

1st For Salaries of officers & Clerks the sum of \$6,000 is asked, being the legal limit.

2. For Compensation to labourers, \$3,800.

The number of workmen is limited to five, whose annual wages, agreeably to the Arrangements made there, will amount nearly to that sum.

It is understood that the wages of workmen of this class, are high in the new settlement.

3. For incidentals and Contingent expenses. \$4,000.

This is deemed sufficient by the Superintendent for the coming year, inasmuch as a stock of materials has been already procured from funds appropriated for the present year.

The postage is a liberal allowance for a Coinage of half a Million of Gold.

4. For enclosing the Mint lot and for outbuildings \$7,500.

In this item is included the expense of levelling the grounds, which is considered requisite to the completion of the establishment —

4. Branch at Dahlonega

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2. For Compensation to labourers, \$3,800.

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The postage is a liberal allowance for a Coinage of half a Million of Gold.

4. For enclosing the Mint lot and for outbuildings, \$7,500.

In this item is included the expense of levelling the grounds, which is considered requisite to the completion of the establishment —

An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch
Mint at Dahlonega, Geo. for the Year 1838.

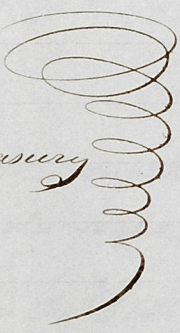
	Doll.	Doll.
For Salaries of Officers and Clerks		
The Superintendent	2,000	
The Assayer	1,500	
The Coiner	1,500	
One Clerk	1,000	6,000
For Compensation to Labourers		3,800
For Incidental & Contingent Expenses.		
Wastage of Gold	2,000	
Iron, Steel, Lead, Castings, Chemical Agents, Copper, zinc, oil, tallow, Crucibles, Melting pots and repairs	1,000	
Wood & Coal for Steam Engines & furnaces, and for the different Offices	1,000	4,000
For enclosing the Mint lot, and for out- Buildings		7,500
		\$ 21,300

The Act of March 3^d, 1835, establishing Branches of the Mint of the United States, limits the number of "subordinate workmen and servants" to twenty for the New Orleans Branch, and to five for each of the other Branches. Now this is found to be the smallest number that can be employed as actual "workmen" in the essential operations of the Mint, and no provision has been made, for door keepers, watchmen, and firemen. I consider it matter of necessity that such assistants should be employed at the Mints; but the limit of the present law, seems to be imperative, and therefore I have not ventured to include their Compensation in the above estimate. I would, however, most respectfully, ask the attention of the Committee of Ways & Means to this subject, and would propose that an act be passed to this effect: "That there be employed, at the Branches of the Mint of the United States, such number of workmen Attendants, and servants, as shall be judged necessary by the Director?" And, "That so much of the act entitled 'an act to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States,' approved the third of March 1835, as is inconsistent with the foregoing provision be repealed"

I hope that the above statements will be found
to contain all the information asked for by the Com-
mittee of Ways & Means

I am, Sir, very Respectfully,
Your faithful Servant
(Signed) R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury



Dec 31st
for the
for 1838

Order upon
request to be
warrant thereupon
his annual report
can be forwarded

McKean

115

Mint of the United States,
January 8th. 1838.

Sir,

Agreeably to my last re-
port of the Deposits and Coinage of gold at the
Mint, there remained uncoined on the

30th of November, . . \$ 126,035

Deposits in December—

Bullion of the United States, \$ 10,840

Coins of U.S. of former Standard, none

Foreign Bullion & Jewelry, 165

Foreign Coins, 8,380 19,385

145,420

Amount of Coinage in the month of December
(of which \$1,700 was in Quarter-Eagles) . . . } 130,795

Remaining uncoined on the 31st December,
but subject to deduction for wastage, in the
operations of the Year ending at this date,
and to be adjusted in the ensuing monthly report, } 14,625

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secy of the Treasury. }

P. M. Patterson,
Director

MS. 16

Mint of the United States.
Jan. 13th, 1838.

Sir,

The Guard Bank presented to me yesterday a draft of which a copy is appended to this letter, and I was under the painful necessity of declining to accept it; first, because the advice mentioned on the face of it had not been received, — secondly because the draft was entirely unexpected, nor could I conceive on what account it was drawn, — thirdly, because I was unprovided with funds to meet it. The draft has accordingly been protested, but is held by the Bank until I can receive the expected advice from Gen. Gordon. I have claimed this delay as a right, inasmuch as the draft was forwarded by the express mail, and the Bank has no right to expect that the advice from Gen. Gordon should be sent otherwise than by the ordinary mail.

I have now no funds of the New-
Orleans Branch to meet this draft,
however correct it may prove; and
unless it be on account of the payment
of wages, there are no funds applicable
to the purpose in the Treasury. I am
apprehensive, therefore, of great embar-
rassment and mortification from this
source. May I respectfully pray for
your advice and instructions, under the
circumstances?

I am, Sir, very truly,

Your obedient servant,

P. M. Patterson
Director

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Evening paper in the today
W.

If no authority of no
knowledge write to
him, that he can then
if hold can get

	127.500
	66.500
Building -	\$67.000
Apparatus	2.500
Laborers	10.800
Leisure & Cont. Exp.	15.700

(Copy.)

23/4/21

New Orleans, 24 Jan^y. 1835.

At sight of this my first of Ex-
change, second of the same tenor and date unpaid,
pay to the order of Martin Gordon & Cash
of the Union Bank of Louisiana, the sum of
Three and three hundred and four dollars
thirty one cents, for value received, and charge
the same as this day advised, and oblige
Your Obedt Servant

(Signed) Martin Gordon Secy.
Commissioner &c.

T. D. R. M. Patterson
Director of the office of the U.S.
Philadelphia.

Endorsed by Martin Gordon & Co to Wm D. Lewis
Cash. Girard Bank, and for that Bank by
Schott President.

Letter tell them
to get advice pay
- & remit at once to New Orleans
on the subject

McK

117

Min. of the United States.
Jan. 13th, 1838.

Sir, I send you herewith a copy of
my annual report; but find that
the Clerks have neglected to make a
copy of the tabular statements accom-
panying it. It is now Saturday
evening, and it is impossible for
me to supply the omission. As
these tables are with the original,
sent to the President, the omission
is, I hope, of little consequence.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Tattersall,

Director.

Adm. of H. of H. H. H.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

13. 1838

(Copy.)

118

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, January 13, 1838.

Sir,

In compliance with the law which requires that, "in the month of January of every Year, the Director shall make report, to the President of the United States, of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the Year preceding," I have the honor to submit to You the following Statement.

The Coinage executed in 1837 has amounted to —
\$3,299,898, comprising \$1,148,305. in gold, \$2,096,010, in Silver, and \$55,583 in copper, and composed of 15,010,721 pieces of Coin. (Statement A.)

The deposits of Gold within the Year amounted to \$1,145,000, of which only \$282,000 was derived from the Mines of the United States. (Statements B and C.)

The necessities of the Circulation having required a large amount of small coins, the proportion of such coins struck in 1837 greatly exceeds that of any former Year, the number of pieces of less value than the half dollar being more than nine millions. (Tabular Statement D.)

The laws authorizing deposits with the Mint, of public funds, "for the purchase of bullion for coinage," and "for enabling the Mint to make the returns to depositors with as little delay as possible," have proved of great benefit in our own operations, and, during the late derangements in the currency, of great importance to the public interests.

At the close of the Year, there was in our vaults, on these accounts, the amount of \$789,218.73 in gold and silver; and there had been withdrawn, on treasury drafts, Coins to the amount of \$476,414.08.

The increased efficiency of the Mint, and the possession of the government deposits have enabled us, during the past Year, for the first time, to avoid the delays to which we were formerly forced to subject depositors of bullion, and to make returns to them in coins, as soon as the value of their deposits could be ascertained. I have, therefore, on this occasion, the satisfaction to report that not a single dollar of deposits made before the close of the Year, remains unpaid.

The machinery of the New Orleans Branch Mint was erected, and the Steam Engine set in action, in May last; and there would have been no difficulty in putting the Mint in full operation, but for the apprehensions from the climate. ^{For} of the officers and all the workmen were from the Middle States, and unacclimated, and I was advised by the resident officers, that they ^{incurred} would be ~~great~~ ⁱⁿ great risk in ~~strangers~~ ^{going to New-} going to New-

Orleans in the warm season. The occurrence of ^a fatal epidemic, soon after, proved that these apprehensions were too well founded; and the officers and men from this place were ^{thence} prevented from reaching New Orleans before the beginning of December. They are now however, all at their stations, and making every exertion to commence the operations of the Mint at an early day.

The Machinery for the Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, was shipped to Charleston in April, and in the following month, competent workmen were sent forward to put it in operation. Great delay and difficulty occurred, however, in transporting the heavy machinery to Charlotte, so that the Steam-Engine was not set in action until the middle of August.

The Machinery for the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, in Georgia, was sent to Savannah, in May, and difficulty and delay also occurred in its transportation thence by land. After the workmen at Charlotte had finished their task, they proceeded to Dahlonega, to erect the Machinery there, and they completed this work early in November.

To put up the furnaces and refineries at the Mints, Masons were sent from Philadelphia; and, in order that this important part of the work might be properly executed, as well as for the purpose of giving advice and aid in other essential points, one of the officers of this Mint was requested to go to Charlotte and Dahlonega; and I have rea-

son to believe that his visit was of great importance.

The Mint building at New Orleans is completed, so far as is necessary for the Mint operations; only one of the wings, intended for the residence of the officers, being unfinished.

The Mint at Dahlonega is nearly completed, except as to the enclosure and out-buildings. The Mint at Charlotte is entirely finished, and has commenced operations so far as to be receiving deposits and assaying.

The certificates of this Branch are, for the present, paid here; so that it may, in this way, retain gold to furnish a fund, for the purpose of enabling it, hereafter, to make prompt payments on the spot for bullion that may be furnished for coinage.

In consequence of the location of the new Mints in places where there are no manufactories and few mechanical resources, it has been necessary to send from here every article of machinery and apparatus, many even of the ordinary materials, and all the workmen required for erecting the machinery, furnaces, refineries, and other fixtures. If, therefore, there has been much delay in getting these mints ^{to} operation, it is but just to observe that the task presented peculiar difficulties. — The delay, moreover, has been accompanied by one important advantage; since it has given full opportunity to the officers and the principal hands to perfect themselves in their respective

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To



departments by actual practice in this mint; - so
that, when they begin their operations at the Branches,
the public may have confidence in their ability to dis-
charge them with skill and accuracy.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

With great respect,

Yours faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint.

To the President
of the United States.

McKean

Mint of the United States,
Jan. 22d, 1838.)

Sir,

I return You the letter from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, which You sent to me for my opinion, Col. Wheeler had written to me on the same subject, at the same date.

My answer to him was, in effect, that I thought him justified in resorting to his contingent fund to pay his workmen, under the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed.

As to Col. Wheeler's suggestion that henceforward the moneys spent here for his Branch should be dispensed by him, I have thought that this may be the best course, but yet there may be circumstances which will render it impracticable, — I mean circumstances connected with the transmission of funds. — In no event, however, need there be any confusion as to the accounts, as he would of course be informed if

I were to make drafts on the Department.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson

Director

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Secretary of Treasury.

Reply to

Col. W.

Auditing

W.

McKean

Mint of the United States,
Jan. 26th, 1838.

Sir,

In a letter dated Augusta, the 15th inst., from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, he complains that the building for the Mint is not yet finished, and makes the following statement:

"Before I left home I was under the necessity of saying to our Contractors that I should commence our operations by the 1st of February, whether the building was done or not, and in that case I should dismiss the workmen then pretending to be engaged, and employ such as would finish the building some time or other, — I did this as a menace, though with much sincerity. Should they not finish the building by that time, (and I do not expect they will,) and I can discover that it will not impair the obligations of the original contract, it is very probable I shall execute the threat, with a view of its meeting Your approbation."

It is manifest, from this paragraph, that the Contract for erecting the Dahlonega Mint building, has been and is still greatly mismanaged. — The true source

of the evil seems to be that the Commissioner, Ignatius Ferr, Esq., has not been able to devote his attention to the execution of the Contract. He resides, I am informed, more than a hundred miles from Dahlonega, has been there but three times during the protracted period that the work has been in hands, — and has not staid ^{on any} an entire day, of these visits.

The work is yet unfinished, and new work has to be executed for the levelling, enclosure, and out-buildings. Is it right that Col. Ferr should still be continued in his Commission? Dr. Singleton is on the spot, — is competent to the management of the business, — and is zealous for its early and faithful completion. — Let me then respectfully propose that the further Superintendence of the Contracts be taken from Col. Ferr, and transferred to Dr. Singleton. I presume that this may be done in such form as not to impair, in any way, the obligations of these Contracts; for, if necessary, Dr. Singleton could be named Commissioner, as Successor of Col. Ferr. The funds now in Col. Ferr's hands should, of course, be transferred.

I have the honor to send you enclosed a copy of a report made to me by Mr. Peale after his return from the two Gold Mines. It bears upon the subject of the present letter; but has, as you will find, a much more general interest.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
J. M. Patterson,
Director.

Address a line to Mr. Lee
suggesting the necessity
of having some person
in the spirit to attend
to the completion of the
work & receiving him to
attend them certainly been
that person - if not able
I write the proper friends
to be made aware to
the Superintendent
Saml. L. Jr.

Jan. 26th 1838.

in order, that he may see the work finished

W.

Write to Genl. S. accordingly &
request him to take charge

of the work - unless

Mr. Low can attend to it

expediently in the S. part

till completed W

Yours Devotedly W. Keane

W. Keane

M 256 Jan 26

W. Keane

1838,

(Copy)

121

To Dr. R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mints of the United States,

Sir,

In compliance with the general instructions received from You, with the consent and approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury, I have visited the Branch Mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega, inspected the buildings erected under Commissions issued for that purpose, arranged the fixtures, and directed the operations of the workmen employed for their erection, and given such advice and instruction to the officers and workmen as in my judgment was required to carry their branches into operation, and I now beg leave to report the following details.

The buildings at Charlotte have been faithfully executed according to the designs and contracts, made and furnished for that purpose; the Commissioner Maj. McComb, has been, and still continues in assiduous attendance, and has carefully watched over the interests of the Government; the materials employed have been the best that the Country supplied; & the execution all that could be expected with the necessary allowances for the resources and habits of the neighbourhood.

The machinery has been well executed by Messrs Coleman Sellers & Sons, and put up in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Baker.

The furnaces and fixtures generally have been erected under my direction with the approbation of the officers, and finally the general disposition and particular details of business, have

56 Jan
M. W.

been arranged with the Superintendent and officers, I have the pleasure to add that they have commenced business by the reception of Bullion & will shortly commence coining.

I regret that I cannot report so favorably of the building at Dahlonega, it has not been executed with the care and skill which the Contract calls for, and it appears from the details which follow, that the Commissioner Col. J. F. Fier has not by his presence or attention, sufficiently protected the interests of Government.

It has been necessary to remove the groined arches in the principal story, & one of those in the basement, the iron straps, the materials and workmanship being deficient.

The cornices, contrary to Contract, have been made of lath and plaster.

The brick of the whole building, is of bad manufacture.

The roof, from bad workmanship, is decidedly insufficient to protect the interior from the weather.

Notwithstanding great allowances must be made on account of the remote situation of the Mint, and the consequent difficulties from want of resources.

Such arrangements have also been made, as will overcome some of the difficulties from the above causes, (the disposition of the rooms, fixtures, furnaces and apparatus has been suited to the objects to which they are devoted, and I would therefore recommend the reception of the building by the Superintendent for Government, of course it would be proper to retain a sufficient sum of the appro-

provision to cover the expense of a new roof, and the cost of the other deficient parts of the structure.

The remarks relative to the fixtures and other interior arrangements of the Mint at Charlotte, are applicable to those at Dahlonega & it is unnecessary therefore to repeat them.

With regard to the prospect of Employment of the mints upon the Gold of the region, a few remarks only are necessary. — Considerable quantities have accumulated in the vicinity of each Mint, a large proportion of which will doubtless be sent to the mints, when they are in operation. at present, however, there is a reaction in mining affairs, which has very much reduced the proceeds, most of the best mines are not worked, but there is reason to believe that when skill and science are more generally introduced into the management, and when Experience has warranted the judicious investment of large Capitals in mining transactions, that the results will increase in a correspondent ratio; there is no doubt whatever, that the immensely extensive Gold region of the U. States is entirely inexhaustible, that it contains deposits and veins which have been fully investigated of an astonishing richness and extent, and that still greater remain to reward the skill and science of future researches.

all of which is respectfully submitted

by
(Signed.) Franklin Poul.

Mint U. States, Phil. Dec. 23. 1837

Check register from

122

Mint of the United States.
Jan. 31st, 1838.

Sir,

In the 32d section of the new mint law, it is enacted "That to secure a due conformity in the gold and silver coins to their respective standards and weights, an annual trial shall be made of the pieces assayed for this purpose at the mint and its Branches, before the judge of the district court of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, the attorney of the United States for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, and the collector of the port of Philadelphia, and such other persons as the President shall from time to time designate for that purpose, who shall meet as Commissioners for the performance of this duty, on the second Monday in February, annually."

It is thus, as you observe, left to the President to designate additional Commissioners for the annual assay, and I take the liberty of asking that the appointment may now be made. Most respectfully,

Wm. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

Your faithful servant
R. W. Patterson
Director.

Mint of the United States,
February 1. 1858.

Sir,

The forms of accounting for Copper, prescribed by the Department to the Mint since the passage of the Act of January 18th, 1857, do not exhibit a distinct account of Profit & Loss on Copper, as before. The cases of overplussage and under-production, that is, when the Coins happen to be severally too light or too heavy, by a trivial and unavoidable variation from their standard weight, and thus exceed or fall short of the proper Count in a given weight, are not alluded to in the items which make up the forms above referred to, and we are left at a loss to know how to charge and credit them. But besides these cases, which under any system of Book-keeping must require an account of Profit and Loss, it is respectfully suggested that unless the ordinary Profit, accruing from the Copper Coinage, and the various expenses growing out of the same, are exhibited in such an account, we are compelled to make informal entries upon the Ledger, without a corresponding Journal entry, of the disposition of the profits, and to suffer a confusion in other respects,

which, by the restoration of that Account, would be entirely avoided.

It is therefore respectfully asked, whether the items of Profit shall not be exhibited on the Credit Side, and the Expenses, Loss by Spoiled Planchets, and Transfer of gains to the objects expressed in the 37th Section of the Act referred to, on the Debit Side of an Account of Profit and Loss.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

L file in Mint file

124

Philad^a. Feby. 5th 1858

fr

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3^d. inst. appointing me of my appointment to be one of the commissioners to witness the annual trial of the coinage at the U. S. Mint.

I accept this appointment with a due sense of the honor conferred upon me hereby, and with the intention of discharging the duties relative to it.

With sentiments of the greatest respect,

I am, Sir, your Obed. Serv^t.

Ch. D. Meigs.

The Hon Levi Woodbury,

Sec. of the Treasury.

Philad. Feb. 7. 1838

Hon^r Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of
 your letter of 3rd inst. informing me that under the
 desire of the President that I should act as a Commis-
 sioner under the New Mentlaw to which appointment
 I accept with endeavor to discharge the duty with fidelity
 I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of
 5th inst. enclosing sundry warrants which
 are paid & the other stating that the Cant^y which
 I had called your attention had been referred
 back to the collector I am with great respect

Yours truly
 Wm. C. Miller

Chas. D. Smith
 accepted of the
 to writing the time of the

76 Feb.
 1838

Mint of the United States.
Feb. 13th, 1838.

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith
a copy of the report made yesterday
by the Commissioners appointed to attend
the Annual Assay. The original is
recorded in the Minute Book of the
Commissioners kept at the Mint.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

*Original report
submitting them
to Com. of
regiment
W*

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

13. 187
(Copy)

127

At a meeting of the Commissioners appointed under the thirty second section of the act, entitled "an act, supplementary to the act, entitled an act establishing a mint, and regulating the coins of the United States," passed the 18th January, 1837, held at the Mint of The United States, on Monday, the 12th day of February, 1838, for the purpose of making the Annual trial of the pieces of the gold and Silver coins, reserved at the Mint,

Present,

John M. Read, Attorney of the United States, for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

James N. Barker, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia.

Dr. Robert Ware,
Dr. Charles Meigs,
Charles Macalister, } Commissioners designated
by The President.

also present,

The Director,

The Chief Coiner.

The Treasurer.

The Melter & Refiner.

The Assayer.

& The Engraver.

The Commissioners proceeded to examine and count the pieces of gold coins, and pieces of silver coins, heretofore taken indiscriminately by the Treasurer, in the presence of the Assayer, and deposited and kept under the joint care of the Treasurer and Assayer, agreeably to the provisions of the 27th Section of said Act, and by them presented for the Annual trial. The pieces set apart were compared with the entries in a book kept for the purpose, and were found to correspond therewith, with the exception of one dime in the Silver, which was missing.

The Commissioners, with the Assent of the officers of the Mint, then directed that the pieces of gold coins, set apart, should be assayed and weighed in one body, and the same being done, the gold coins were found to be exactly equal to the standard declared by law, in weight, and superior to the standard declared by law, one part in two thousand parts, in fineness.

And the Commissioners, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, having also directed that the pieces of silver coins set apart, should be weighed and assayed in one body, and the same being done, the silver coins were found to be superior to the standard declared by law, one part in one thousand four hundred and seventy six parts in weight, and superior to the standard declared by law, one part in two thousand parts in fineness.

The Commissioners therefore approve the gold and silver coins issued at the Mint of the United States,

from the first day of January, 1837, to the 31st day of December, 1837. both inclusive.

And the Commissioners, having also examined the series of standard weights, ordinarily employed in the transactions of the Mint, and their accuracy having been tested in their presence, were found to be regulated according to the standard established by Law.

(Signed.)

John M. Read

J. S. Barker.

Robert Hare

Ch. D. Meigs

Ch. Macaulay.

R. M. Patterson,

(Director.)

128

McKean

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 14th, 1838.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of the 12th inst., requiring the Superintendents of the Branch Mints to make stated reports of their operations, through me, to Your Department; and I shall write immediately to these gentlemen instructing them to make reports to me of their proceedings for every month.

I have been, thus far, kept well informed of the condition of the Gold Mints, but have to complain of the infrequency and meagerness of my communications from New Orleans. I fear, from what I can hear from other sources, that the Superintendent does not take in the institution that anxious interest which his high responsibility requires. I had already written to require from him a report of proceedings at his mint, before Your letter was received.

The conducting of all these Branch Mints will be full of difficulty, and will require a very

heavy expenditure in proportion to the work which they can do. Their helplessness is shown more and more. Every thing must be got from here. We may, in fact, be almost said to be doing their work, - and doing it at the greatest possible disadvantage. Then the wages are very extravagant. At Dahlonega, we are forced to give to all the hands \$2.50 per day; while \$1.50 is the ordinary wages to our hands at this Mint. And cui bono? The whole coinage of American Gold last Year, viz \$282,000, - or 56,400 pieces, in Half Eagles, could be readily coined at this Mint in a week. We have coined \$100,000 in gold, in one day. - But I am well assured that the propriety of establishing and maintaining these Mints, (I speak particularly of the Gold Mints,) is a question that never has been, and is not, referred to my judgment. My duty with regard to them is simply executive, and it shall be discharged with fidelity, though I feel more & more, every day, the difficulties and embarrassments by which it is surrounded.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,
Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of the Treasury.

14. 128
McKean

128
Mint of the United States,
Feb. 15th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of the 13th inst., in which You express Your surprise that there should have been no gold coinage at the Mint during the last month. In reply I beg the liberty of making the following statements.

1st. Great exertions had been ^{made} to get the coinage of all deposits completed up to the close of the Year, including Silver as well as gold.

2d. The deposits of gold subsequently made required separating, in consequence of their containing too much Silver, and therefore could not be coined without being first passed through the refinery.

3d. Such Silvery gold, (as we term it,) cannot be separated without adding to it an excess of Silver, so that, of the mixture, only one-fourth part shall be gold; a circumstance from which the process has received the old Chemical name of quartation.

4th. We are in the custom of receiving, from time to time, deposits of Silver Bullion containing gold,

which also requires separation; and a proper regard to economy in our operations requires that the two processes be combined; so that we always add, when possible, goldy silver, to silvery gold.

5th. In the early part of January, we had no goldy silver on hand, and it was not judged right therefore to separate the silvery gold. During the month, such silver was deposited, and a large amount of separating was done; but not in time for the coinage of that month.

6th. By delaying the separation, for the reasons stated, no inconvenience or loss has occurred to any one, while a considerable saving of labor and material has been gained to the Mint. Every depositor has been paid as soon as his bullion could be assayed, — that is scarcely ever later than the third day; and all calls upon us by government drafts have been promptly honoured.

In presenting my last monthly report, I did not deem these explanations necessary, as the whole amount of uncoined gold bullion on hand was very trifling; as I had already informed You that of the bullion on hand a large proportion was often in a condition unfit for coinage; and as You were fully aware that all depositors were promptly paid without waiting for the coinage of their own bullion

Our depositors all have their choice of payment in half or in quarter eagles, and it is a rare occurrence that they will accept of quarters. It is an unhappy fact that the gold is not wanted and is not used for circulation. Your instructions, however, shall be attended to.

We have coined, for the last nine months, an unusual proportion of small silver coins; and we shall continue to do so when the bullion deposited is fit for that purpose.

It is proper to state, however, that the demand for such coins, which was at one time so urgent, has very much subsided, and indeed nearly ceased. The Banks have supplied themselves with large amounts, which are locked up in their vaults, to be ready for the resumption of specie payments. None are used in circulation here, except by a few obstinate specie men like myself.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Wm. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of the Treasury.

15th 1838

Jepp

129

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 24th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd inst., with a copy of a letter from the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. This letter gives me the first information of the illness of Mr. Bradford, and thus serves in some measure to explain the darkness in which I have been so long left as to the proceedings of the New Orleans Mint.

I find from your letter and from one which I received yesterday from Mr. Forstall, and of which I send you a copy, that he has allowed the Branch Mint to become very much embarrassed for want of funds, having delayed an application to you too long. I am glad that the remedy of borrowing from Gen. Gordon, on the faith of a draft on me, has not been resorted to, as his draft must have been again protested. As to the former draft, although I wrote to Gen. Gordon, by express mail, on the 12th,

95th Feb
1838

ult., I have not yet received any advice, and it was accordingly sent back to New Orleans by the Girard Bank three days ago, having been retained by them, to await this advice, as long as I could ask them to do so. I am still entirely ignorant of the object of this draft, but presume it was for some payment which should have been made at New Orleans from the Treasury of that Mint, but for which they wanted funds.

The New Orleans Branch Mint ought, like the other Mints, to have a deposit for the purchase of bullion, if this can be given to them without encumbrance. It is for you to judge whether this can be done, and to what extent, without harassing the Government, or the Mint here. Certainly, the amount of \$10 or 20,000, which you propose in your letter, would be wholly inadequate. Mr. Foxhall mentions that some of the New Orleans Merchants have procured large supplies of bullion from Mexico, which they would deposit at the Branch Mint if the Treasurer's certificates could be made immediately available: the meaning of which I presume to be — if they could be cashed at this mint. He states, moreover, that if this cannot be done, the bullion will be sent to the Bank of the United States. It may well be doubted whether, in either case, the coins would not go to this Bank, — the difference

being that in the one case they would pay for the transportation, and in the other they would be relieved from this charge by the government.

Very respectfully,

Yours faithful servant,

R. W. Tatterton,
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury.

Apr. 24th
The Dept.

minis yours to
congratulate & ascertain
which will be
sufficient at new
of whether it had best
be stopped to the bank
than or new
withstand with
the matter must
to be done
Apr 25

(Copy.)

Treasurers Office,

Br. Mint, N. Orleans,

Feb. 13. 1838.

Do R. W. Patterson,
Director of the Mint,
Philad^a. }

Sir,

In consequence of not receiving funds written for, some time since, which were expected a week or ten days ago, and apprehending from the loss and failures of the mails a detention which would not only be a great inconvenience to Mr Barrett, but occasion a loss to the Government of ten dollars per day, I have with the approbation of the officers, in the absence of Mr Bradford, who is severely ill, taken the liberty of drawing on you at three days sight, for the amount due to Mr. Barrett. As I consider this step a case of necessity, I trust you will not suffer the bill to be protested, for if you deem an improper irregularity, I will reimburse you by the Express Mail out of our funds as soon as we shall receive them, & after this, knowing by experience that we must allow more time, when we write to the Secretary of the Treasury, than we have hitherto done, I believe that

Such necessity as the present will not exist again - This
will be despatched by the Express mail, & should
the step I have taken, not be approved by You,
I will thank you to write to inform me of the same
by the Express mail, when it may be possible for
me to meet the draft in Philadelphia, before
the arrival of the men -

The draft is for Seven Hundred and ten dollars,
of which Five hundred and Sixty are due to Mr Barret
and One hundred and fifty to Wm. Ows. Mr Barret's
acct. amounted to \$710. but he has been paid \$150.
on account, leaving of \$560. due to him as above.

I remain respectfully,

Your obt. servant,

(Signed.)

Edm. Forstall,

Treas. Br. Mint (N.O.)

MCK

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 28th, 1838.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 26th, and shall write immediately to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans according to your instructions.

I received yesterday two letters from that Branch, one from the Coiner, and the other from the Melter and Refiner. They repeat the information, so unfortunate at this time, that Mr. Bradford is too ill to attend to business. Mr. Maxwell states that he had reported his department ready for operation on the 20th ult. The assayer is also prepared for work. The Coiner, Mr. Tyler, has been delayed by an error committed by the person employed to put up the Steam engine and rollers, which were placed out of their proper position. Still I am assured that they will be ready to commence operations in the month of March.

Difficulties have already occurred with the men in consequence of the idle and dissipated habits

into which they are tempted at New Orleans, and it has been found necessary to discharge four of the hands. The officers state that this exercise of discipline has had a very beneficial effect upon the remaining workmen.

Although they have been receiving bullion for three months at the Charlotte Mint, they have not yet begun to coin. Difficulties are constantly presented to them in consequence of their helpless position. The journal of one of their rolls broke, and the evil cannot be remedied short of this place. The Refiner was in want of coarse salt for his operations, and even that could not be procured at Charlotte. In putting up the building, workmen could not be found acquainted with the proper method of laying metallic roofs, and the consequence has been, first, that they were exposed to annoying leaks, and lastly, as you have been already informed, that the Zinc has been blown off the greater part of their building.

At Dahlonega the contracts for erecting the Mint have been lamentably neglected, so that the building is not yet received from the contractors, although they have ceased to work at it. The instructions which you have lately ^{given} to the Superintendent will, no doubt, remedy this evil. Notwithstanding all their difficulties, however, the officers began to receive gold bullion for coinage on the 12th inst., and the Super=

intendant announces to me that they are nearly ready to go into full operation.

Some inconvenience is suffered, at all the Branch Mints, from a delay in getting the Balances for their weighing. — These were ordered in Paris, where they could be procured much better and cheaper than here. After some detention on the part of the Workmen, the Balances, with some other apparatus, were shipped from Havre in the Packet Formosa, and ought, in the ordinary course, to have been at New York at least a month ago. Some apprehensions are entertained for her safety. Her loss would be a serious evil for the Branch Mints, the Balances which they now use being of an inferior quality.

Very respectfully,

Your Faithful Servant

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Advs. of the amount of the
the difference would
to new operation of the local
Mint of the Branches
with convenience
The superintendent must
be carefully regulated
to expense all possible
penalty

and every in having every thing new
on with everything of importance

Febry 28th 1808.

M 324 Mark
Whelan

check

Mint of the United States,

March 1st, 1858.

Sir,

On Monday last, (the 26th ult,) Mr. Asa Fitch Jr. presented to our Treasurer a draft on the Mint for \$45,000, with a letter from Mr. Randolph, Acting Treasurer of the U. States, which said, -

"I am instructed by the Secretary of the Treasury to request that you will pay our draft of \$45,000, favor of Asa Fitch Jr., in New York, if your funds there will enable you to do so."

Mr Fitch was informed that we had no specie funds in New York, but we offered to make the payment here, in either gold or silver, as he should choose. He said that he would inquire which would be most advantageous for him, and engaged to return to the Mint that day; but we have not seen him since; and we have therefore thought it proper to state to you these circumstances.

We have a balance in our favour, in the Bank of America, of \$77,699.51, on account of

our deposit of \$ 600,000, for the purchase of bullion for coinage, and it is probable that our quarterly report of this balance may have led the Department to suppose that we had specie funds in New York. It is not so however. The special deposit which we had in the Bank of America has been long since paid.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson
Director.

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury.
Sec. of Treasury.

P.S. — It may not be uninteresting to you to add, that the balance due to us by the Fiscal Bank, on our deposits of \$ 400,000 for the purchase of bullion for coinage, is reduced to \$ 57,664.82; and that they advise us they have taken measures for paying off the whole amount at a very early day.

1832
Memo

133
At Grand Bank
Philadelphia, March, 1838

Sir,
Since I wrote to you this morning
on the subject of Mr. Fitch's Treasury
Draft on the Mint, I have called him
on business, and find that Mr. Fitch
has transferred his draft to Mr. Alsop
by whom it has been transferred to the
Grand Bank. I presume that Mr.
Alsop had, in New York, the specie
funds which were wanted.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. W. Patterson
Director of U. S.
Mint

To / Mr. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

A Bill

134

To Amend an Act entitled an Act "to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States", passed the 3^d day of March 1835

Be it enacted &c

That the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia may appoint with the approbation of the President an Assistant to each of the Assayers of the several Branches of the Mint, in New Orleans, North Carolina & Georgia, whenever on representation made by the Director to the President, it shall be the opinion of the President, that such aids are necessary, and also it shall be lawful for the Director to cause to be employed such number of workmen, attendants and servants, as he shall judge necessary to carry on the practical operations of said Branches, and the salaries and pay of such Assistants and workmen shall be regulated in accordance with the usages of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Sec: 2 And be it further enacted

That the Branch of the Mint of the United States at Charlotte N.C. shall be authorized to coin Silver as well as gold, of such denominations as may be deemed proper by the Director & Superintendent, and the annual salaries of the Officers of said Branch shall be as follows; To the Superintendent \$2,500. to the Assayer & Coiner each \$2,000 to the Clerk \$1,500.

Sec: 3. And be it further enacted

That for the erection of fixtures, apparatus &c for the coinage of Silver, and for the purpose of paying for any salaries & wages heretofore created, the sum of Five thousand Dollars is hereby appropriated out of any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated

Sec: 4 And be it further enacted

That so much of the act, entitled "an Act to establish

1
"Branches of the Mint of the United States" approved 3^d March 1835
as is inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, he and the same is hereby
repealed —

11357

McKean

Mint of the United States,
March 30, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., enclosing a copy of a letter of the 16th ult. from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, asking your warrant on this Mint for \$30,000, to be used as a fund for the purchase of bullion for coinage.

I have to state, in answer to your letter, that I entirely approve of this application, - understanding, as I do, that the deposit is to be used with the objects and under the conditions explained in my letter to you of the 27th of November, with regard to a similar deposit made with us in favor of the Branch Mint at Charlotte.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director

To

Hon Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Let this and a month to him from Mr. Bayly
on a matter connected with it -
W

1838
MCK

136

Sir

Borington Gro. February 22nd 1838

Your letter dated the 29th January, and directed to
Philadelphia, only reached me by the last mail. I am aware
that the completion of the Branch mint at Hallonega, has
been unreasonably delayed, but have hoped that the public
service would not suffer, as the unfinished work for some time
past, consisted only of the ornamental parts of the Building (except
the Iron door, which was finished a few weeks since,) indeed Dr
Ingleson told me in September last that he did not suppose
it should be put to any inconvenience by it. Nevertheless,
the delay cannot be excused by the Contractors, and it will
not with the Department to say whether any abatement
from the cost of the Building, should be made in a final
settlement with them. I shall meet the Contractors on
the 10th of next month, and hope then to be able to report
final tender of the Building as completed, from them.

After paying them the third instalment (the receipt for which
was transmitted to you) I pledged the further sum of four
thousand dollars for them in November last, as they represented
me that they could not procure workmen without a further supply of
money, still I have so arranged it that they are individually res-
ponsible for the amount, unless the Building is received. Be please
to address your communications to me in this place.

Very respectfully your obt servant
Ignatius A. Shaw

Wm. L. Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury U. S.

March
Kear

McK

(137)

Mint of the United States,
March 8th, 1838.

Sir,

Your letter of the 6th inst., enclosing a copy of a resolution of inquiry as to the Mint and its Branches, adopted by the House of Representatives, has just been received, and the information you ask shall be communicated as soon as it can be procured and arranged.

It may be proper to mention that I am not possessed of the documents which relate to the cost of the buildings, lots, &c., for the Branch Mints; since I was charged only with furnishing the machinery and apparatus.

I send herewith a copy of a letter to the Treasurer of the U. S., dated the ^{15th} of Nov. last, which will explain all that I know as to the deposit mentioned in the Postscript of your letter. The \$120 was, I presume, the year's interest on the payment of \$2000 due by Michael Stites; but why it came to be deposited in the Bank of the Metropolis, I cannot tell.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of the Treasury.

(Copy.)

(138)

Mint of the United States
Nov. 15. 1837.

Sir,

I have the honour to send you
herewith, two thousand one hundred and twenty dollars,
viz. \$2000 in Treasury Notes, \$105.42 in a Treasury
Draft, and \$14.58 in specie, - this sum being the am-
ount of the purchase money, (with one year's interest,) ~~paid~~
paid by Michael Stites, for a part of the property
formerly occupied by the Mint, and finally closing
that concern. I send, at the same time, to the Sec-
retary of State, a deed for the conveyance of this prop-
erty, to be executed by the President; and, for this pur-
pose, it is necessary that the Secretary ~~should~~ have,
from the Comptroller of the Treasury, a certificate of
the receipt of this payment, which, therefore, I have re-
spectfully to request that you will cause to be sent
to him.

I remain very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

(Signed) W. M. Patterson,
Director.

To/

Geo. Campbell, Esq.

Treasurer of U. S.

Mint of the United States,
March 10th, 1838.

Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Girard Bank has paid to us the whole of the balance due by them on account of our deposits of \$400,000 for the purchase of Bullion for Coinage.

Our contract with them required, that the whole amount should be returned in Bullion, or foreign coins; but, under the difficulties which have occurred in fulfilling this contract to the letter, I have felt it expedient to receive a part of the payment in American coins. The effect is to remove the deposit for the purchase of Bullion from them and keep it in the Mint, to be still used for the same purpose, unless withdrawn by drafts from your department.

I have no doubt that the Bank of America will immediately close their Bullion account with us also, as I wrote yesterday to request them to do so, and they have the means in our hands.

Very respectfully,

Yours faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of the Treasury.

107-1838

He Muller has been on several occasions for the purpose of
1401

Mint of the United States,
March 12. 1838.

McKean

Sir,

We received this morning,
from the Bank of America, a Mint Certificate endorsed
in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for \$77,699,51,
being the whole balance remaining due to us on ac-
count of our deposits, with that Bank, of \$600,000,
for the purchase of bullion for Coinage.

From this announcement, and that given in
my letter of the 10th, it is seen that the whole deposits
of one million of Dollars, in Treasury Drafts on the Bank
of America and the Girard Bank, has been converted into
Gold and Silver Coins, and the object of the transac-
tion thus faithfully fulfilled.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury.

McKean

Large supply of very happy
to have the number
I hope that the coinage of the Mint

McL

141

Mint of the United States.
March 19th, 1838.

Sir,

In my letter of yesterday relative to the counterfeit of German Silver, a mistake was committed, which I should be sorry to have uncorrected. The specific gravity of the counterfeit was stated at $7\frac{1}{2}$; when it should have been $8\frac{1}{2}$.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

147

Mint of the United States,
March 16. 1838.

Sir,

I send enclosed for your approbation, the Bond of Mr. Lenon Durel, as clerk in the Branch Mint at New Orleans. His oath of office is also annexed.

I also send enclosed a copy of a letter from Mr. Bradford, the Superintendent, which besides the representations necessary for forming a judgment as to the sufficiency of the bond, contains important information relative to the proceedings of the New Orleans Mint.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To

Hon Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

(Copy.)

1/13

U. S. Br. Mint, New Orleans,

March 5. 1838.

Sir,

I have the pleasure of enclosing you herewith the Bond and oath of Office of Mr Lemon Durel, a Clerk in this institution. The security, in my opinion, is as good as could be given in this place. I am not acquainted with the Securities, but Mr. Forstall, the Treasurer, who knows them well, assures me they are gentlemen of the highest responsibility. I appointed Mr. Durel on the 3rd of January last, as it had then become necessary that Mr. Forstall should have his assistance, and being on that day obliged to return to St. Francisville, I thought Mr. Forstall would attend to having the requirements of the law, as regards the Bond & Oath, complied with, and on my return on the 14th of Jan. I omitted, from its not occurring to me, to ascertain if it had been done. I had again to go to St. Francisville on the 24th January, and did not get back here till the 23rd of last month, and to my surprise found Mr. Durel had not been apprised of the law. However as he has rendered services, faithfully and diligently, I consider him entitled to his salary from the date of his appointment. May I ask you, Sir, if I am correct in this opinion? And if I am not, please write me by Express mail so that I may know before the

M 350
M

last of this month, which is the end of the Quarter, at which time the Officers and Clerks and Workmen are to be paid. I have not yet appointed another Clerk, as Mr. Gordon concurred with me that it was not requisite to do so. We expect to be coming in this month, and it is probable I will appoint the other next week.

March 8. I have the pleasure of informing you that Silver Bullion, to the value of upwards of Thirty thousand dollars, was deposited yesterday in this Branch, to be assayed to day, and the melting and refining will also be commenced to day, and we were asked if we could coin by the first of June, (for the same house that made the deposit) (Lizandale) which I answered in the affirmative) the sum of \$300.00 I hope therefore the Treasurer of this Branch, will have funds furnished him immediately to pay the Depositors.

Your humble servant,

(Signed) David Bradford,
Superintendent.

To

Dr. H. M. Patterson,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Know all persons, by these presents, that we, Denon Durel, a Clerk in the United States Branch Mint, at New Orleans, and S. A. Durel, and Louis Gurlie, are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the sum of Five thousand dollars, lawfull money of the United States, to which payment well & truly to be made, we do bind our selves, and each of us, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly & severally, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals, and dated the second day of March, in the year of our lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty eight (1838) The condition of the above obligation is such that if the said Denon Durel shall faithfully and diligently perform the duties of Clerk aforesaid, according to law, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed & delivered
in presence of
William Telly
J. B. B. B.

L. Durel

S. A. Durel

L. Gurlie

I, Denon Durel, a Clerk in the United States Branch Mint at New Orleans do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and that I will faithfully and diligently perform the duties of a Clerk in the Mint aforesaid according to law; So help me God.

L. Durel

Sworn & subscribed
before me this 3^d day
of March A. D. 1838 -

P. N. Lawrence,
W. T. Lodge.

From the representations made in a letter from
David Bradford Esq., Superintendent of the Branch
Mint at New Orleans, dated March 5th 1838,
I declare that the foregoing Bond of Linn Dural,
or Clerk in that Mint, is to my satisfaction.

March 16th, 1838.

P. M. Patterson,
District U. S. Marshal.

McKean

1/15

Mint of the United States,
March 23rd, 1838.

Sir,

In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 12th ult., I wrote immediately to the Superintendents of the several Branch Mints, directing them to send to me, at the close of every month, an account of their proceedings for that month, - stating particularly,

"1st. The progress made toward the completion of their buildings, grounds, and arrangements for coinage &c., until these shall be finished.

"2d. The amounts and kinds of deposits received for coinage.

"3d. The amounts and kinds of the coinage executed.

4th. Any miscellaneous information of interest in relation to the Branch under their charge."

In consequence of these instructions, reports were received from the Superintendents of the Branches at New Orleans and at Charlotte, of which I send you copies enclosed, marked A and B. - The report from

the Superintendent of the Daklonega Branch was not received until this morning, and as it contains much matter which was not included in my instructions, and which forms the subject of a separate communication to you, I send you herewith only the extract marked C.

These reports give an account of the progress of the Branch Miners up to the end of February.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson
Director

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury,
Washington.

Enclosed reports

of any thing

necessary to be

done further

W

Send a copy
of the report
to the
Minister

fringe the name
of his minister
attending
to the

...very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R.M. Patterson,
(Director.)

...}

Sent a copy
of the ...

fringe the necessity
of his minister
attention to
during

...
to the ...
W

(Copy.)

146

U. S. B. Mint, New Orleans,
March 1st. 1838.

Sir,

The end of the last month being so near at hand, and being desirous of giving you all the information in relation to this Branch, and every day having my letter unfinished at the closing of the Mail, has brought me to this date. I report that, on my arrival the other Officers informed me that in my absence they had discharged three men and four others had left, being in combination with the others. It seems they had misbehaved, violated the rules and used violent and threatening language. I fully approved the proceeding. The workmen since have been very orderly and attentive to business.

The Assayer and Meltor & Refiner inform me they are ready for operations. The Coiner will be ready in this month. He has had many difficulties to encounter nearly all of which have successfully been overcome, and though more time has been required than was expected, yet I am well pleased with the result and am satisfied that the utmost industry and exertions have been used in making the arrangements for commencing operations.

Mr. Forstall the Treasurer in my absence at the urgent request of the Merchants who have been of

bullion and are daily expecting more, wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury requesting funds to pay the Depositors. This I fear was not regular, but I hope it will be properly considered. I have to inform you that were we in funds to pay the Depositors I am satisfactorily informed that upwards of \$100,000 in bullion would immediately be brought to this Branch by the merchants of this place, or were we authorised to issue certificates for deposits as the Superintendent and Treasurer in Charlotte has advertised he is, the bullion would be brought to us abundantly, and this might go on at once, the Assaying department being ready.

The building is nearly complete except the residence for the Superintendent and Coiner, not having out families here, and those dwellings not being tenantable before fall, I requested the other parts of the buildings be finished with all despatch, and the builders have placed the most of their force accordingly. The enclosure is to be an iron railing resting on granite; the foundation for the granite has been laid even with the surface, and the granite placed on near a fourth of the enclosure.

The 2nd. & 3rd. matters on which you request me in your letter of the 14th ult. to report, will be duly attended to when we get in operation.

Dr. West, the Assayer, informs me he is in want of the means of measuring & weighing solutions.

Mr. Tyler, the Coiner, is of opinion he will be ready for coining by the end of this month. He is now constructing the annealing furnace, having had to wait

for the settling & drying of the foundation. Two of the Coining
presses are ready for the reception of the dies or nearly so.
He has informed you that he is in want of ~~weighing~~ and
adjusting balances.

I regret very much to say that Mr. Maxwell is
apprehensive the arches will give way in the basement
story. They have settled considerably though I cannot
say how much, but will inform you as soon as I can
get the estimate made by the Contractors & Mess. Maxwell
& Tyler, who placed measures the other day to see how
much they had settled and if they continued to do so.
Mr. Gordon bestows every attention & has the liveliest
solicitude in this matter & every other in relation to the
Building.

I have made requisitions on the Secretary of the
Treasury, on the appropriation for paying the officers &
workmen of this Branch, & the Treasurer has received
Eighteen Thousand six Hundred & twenty five dollars,
(\$18,625.-)

Amount of money received —	\$18,625.00
" Paid Officers & men —	11,700.00
" " Furniture for Officers	635.75
" " Fixtures, not in Builder's Contract	2,000.00
" " Coal, Lumber & Iron	2,604.33
" " Incidental Expenses & Guard	981.50
	<u>\$17,921.58</u>

I expected we would yesterday pay off the men in time
for me to make a full report which was not done. The
item ^{for} Fixtures &c. is not exact. I wish you would instruct

Particularly, whether I am authorized to employ a guard. Necessity has compelled me to do so till the enclosure is made ~~the~~ the building secured, and whether I ought to make a requisition on the Secretary of the Treasury for funds out of a different appropriation.

I have appointed but one clerk. I put up with my brother-in-law Judge Le Woodrooff, a mile from the Mint, and when my office is fitted up will I hope write more legibly than I have this letter.

Your humble servant
(Signed) David Bradford.
Superintendent.

Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director
Mint.
Philad^a.

A

(Copy.)

117

U. S. Branch Mint,
Charlotte N. C.
Feb. 28. 1838.

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions of the 14th inst., requiring me "to send, at the close of every month, an account of my proceedings for that month, at this Branch of the Mint of the U. States under my charge", I have the pleasure to submit the following reply.

To the first enquiry, as to the progress made towards the completion of the building &c; the Mint Edifice is finished, the Out houses such as stables, kitchen, Woodhouse &c. have all been erected, and the fencing is now in rapid progress, and I hope will all be finished by the first of May next. By the Contract, the work was to have been finished by the 1st Dec. last, but the difficulty of procuring timber, the inclemency of the season, and other causes have retarded the work, the completion of which however is not necessary to our arrangements for Coinage.

As to the Second inquiry, the papers I will show the amount & kind of Deposits received for Coinage at this Branch. In addition to furnishing the information as to the "amount & kind of deposits" I have given you the date of reception, weight after melting, the standard weight & value of the Deposits, together with such remarks as might be deemed satisfactory to the complete

Elucidation of so important a point of inquiry.

It will be seen that there have been deposited in this Mint from its commencement of operations, (14 Dec.) to this date 2,721,45 ounces of Gold, and if all of which was of standard value would be worth \$50,706.96. of this \$12,146.58 belongs to Government, that amount being purchased by me, by the issue of certificates, payable by your Treasurer, the balance belongs to the Depositors and remains for coinage.

As to the third point of enquiry as the amounts & kinds of the Coinage executed, the reports of the Comr & Assayer herein sent marked B. & C. will show you that there has been no Coinage as yet, but we hope soon to commence Coining. You will observe from the reports of these officers, that the Machinery, Engine, Fixtures, and Apparatus are nearly all complete, and that we are using every effort to commence Coining, "a consummation most devoutly to be wished", on my part. From the Comr's report you will perceive that he is "ready for coinage & has been since the beginning of the year", but as the Assayer very correctly remarks in his report, "that some allowance may be made if our progress is considered slow, by referring to the impossibility of advancing rapidly with safety".

As regards the fourth & last inquiry "as to any Miscellaneous information of interest in regard to the Branch under my Charge", I reply that you are advised that a heavy storm of wind on the 16th removed a portion of our roof which was before defective. I have promptly remedied this evil by such temporary expedients as were at hand, by covering the exposed portion with shingles.

What kind of roof would you recommend? I had a thought of using shingles, and then laying the zinc over as a protection against fire; or using shingles only, covered with a fire proof paint, & elevating the chimneys. A Copper roof is preferable, if you do not think it too expensive. I have applied to Congress through the Hon^{ble} the Secretary of the Treasury for an appropriation of \$2,000. - to recover the building.

I hope that Congress will acquiesce in the propriety of the suggestion in your communication to the Secretary of the 20th Dec. last, of providing a Doorkeeper, Fireman, & Watchman to the several Branches. Such aids are indispensable for the safe and efficient operation of this Branch, and I hope will be promptly afforded by Congress.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully,

Your obt. Servt

(Signed) John W. Wheeler

Superintendent.

Dr. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint

Philad^a.

Deposits rec^d for coinage from 4th Dec. '37 to 28th Feb. '38. 11/18

Date	Weight after melting		Description	Standard Weight		Remarks	Value.	
	Oz.	Sec.		Ounces	Dec.		O. U.S.	cts.
1/18	111.	34.	Bars	106.	105.	Pa for by U.S.	1.913.	98
5.	617.	35.	Bars & Amalgam	588.	841.	by certificate paper for coinage	10.954.	76
"	14.	88	Bars	12.	763.	it	237.	45
7.	30.	99	Bars & dust.	31.	472.	Pa for by U.S.	585.	52
"	39.	05.	Bars	37.	444.	it	696.	62
8.	40.	97	D ^o	34.	777.	it	646.	99
"	30.	41.	D ^o	25.	780.	for coinage	479.	61
"	9.	31	D ^o	6.	856.	it	127.	55
9	27.	11	Amalgam	25.	362.	it	471.	85
"	7.	35	D ^o	7.	170	Pa for by U.S.	133.	39
13	8.	45	Bar	6.	317	for coinage	117.	51
"	16.	37	D ^o	14.	950.	it	278.	13
14	27.	73	D ^o	22.	703	Pa for by U.S.	422.	36
20	19.	44.	D ^o	19.	050	it	354.	41
"	8.	35.	Amalgam	8.	274.	for coinage	153.	92
21	147.	70.	Bars	180.	345.	it	3.355.	24
"	10.	79.	D ^o	9.	769.	it	181.	73
"	11.	12	D ^o	10.	884.	it	202.	47
"	5.	35.	D ^o	5.	295	it	98.	50
23	18.	83	D ^o	17.	803	Pa for by U.S.	331.	20
"	40.	35.	D ^o	38.	848	Pa for by U.S.	722.	74
25	26.	90	Amalgam	27.	945.	it	519.	89
27	25.	36	Bars & Amalgam	21.	217.	it	394.	71
30.	61.	99	Amalgam	61.	713	for coinage	1.148.	13
"	45.	59	Bars	36.	872.	it	685.	97
"	38.	76	Amalgam	36.	925	it	686.	94
3	15.	45.	Bar	15.	123	Pa for by U.S.	281.	34
"	27.	10	Amalgam	25.	955.	for coinage	482.	83
"	180.	10	Amalgam & bars	152.	284	it	2.833.	17
"	90.	55	Amalgam	86.	625	for coinage	1.611.	62
6.	159.	50	Bars	121.	705	Pa for by U.S.	2.264.	24
"	9.	69.	D ^o	7.	190.	it	133.	76
Ogs	1.974.	22		Ogs	1.804.	362.	\$ 33.569.	53

Pro

Deposits rec'd for coinage from 4th Decem^r 1837 to 28 Feb^y 1838. Continues

1838				1.804.	362.		33.569.
January	13	1.974. 17	Bar				
	15	110. 05	D ^o				
	16	68. 15	Bars & Amalgam			adv ^d on this	1200
	"	20. 05	D ^o D ^o				
	23	7. 73	Bar				
	24	6. 81	D ^o				
	25	149. 63	Sovereigns				
	26	36. 81	Bars & clippings				
February	7	11. 79	Bar				
	10	30. 12	Amalgam				
	"	80. 22	Bars			adv ^d on this	1.350.
	"	157. 35	Grains & Amalgam				
	14	5. 59	Amalgam				
	19	16. 08	Bars.				
	26	16. 26	Bar				
	28	7. 93	Amalgam				
	"	17. 99	Bars.				
Oys 2.721 45							

The Standard weight of the above is not given, as there has been no assay of these deposits, but the assayer informs me that on another mark, the assays will be complete.

149

Extract of letter from Dr. J. S. Singleton, of March 2d, 1838, including all that properly belongs to his annual report, the remainder, respecting his accounts &c. The letter itself was sent with this to the Secretary of the Treasury.

"With regard to the progress made towards the completion of our Br. Mint Edifice, I am sorry to say that it is not yet quite finished, but so far advanced as to enable us to proceed with our business without much inconvenience. We have no out buildings at all, and there is nothing done to the ground around the main building, owing to the want of a fund for that purpose. At present there is nothing doing to the building by the Contractors. Col. Jew has not been here since last summer, and it is very uncertain when he will come. Should he ever come, it is difficult to conjecture whether he will receive the building or not.

The internal arrangements of the assay department are in complete order, and its officer is, at this time, promptly engaged in the discharge of his official duties.

The Coining department is in progress for completion, and I presume will be ready for business in a short time, — say something like two weeks.

Since the commencement of our operations, which
has been little over two weeks, we have received 932.45
oz. of gold (Tweight) before melting) the most of which
has been assayed, and the balance now undergoing the
process of refining, [This must be a mistake, since
all deposits are necessarily assayed before they are
refined. - Director.] and as soon as we can obtain
some Copper, will be ready for casting into ingots.
And it is very probable that I shall have to send
to Charleston, as it appears that the Copper bolts,
such as are made use of for ship building, are
preferable to any other which we can obtain here."

(Signed) Jas. J. Singleton.

Supr Br. Mint.

in Georgia -

Dr R. M. Patterson }
Director &c.

MS. A. 9. 2.

150

Mint of the United States,
March 24. 1838.

Sir,

In answer to a letter to Mr. Bradford, the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch Mint, written on the 28th ult., respecting the amount of the public deposits for the purchase of bullion, which would be required at his Mint, he states, -

"Mr. Gordon was of opinion that all that we wanted was a Credit in one of the Property Banks of ~~this~~ city, and not a Capital in Specie laying idle much of the time, and he named the Union Citizens Bank, which I know possesses the highest Confidence. He was of opinion any Bank here would be glad to accept the proposal to any amount even above a million of Dollars. - Now if such a credit can be obtained for this Branch I have no doubt our operation would far exceed the estimate you made of our Coinage this year, (three millions of Dollars.) I am well informed that bullion to a very unusual amount will be brought to this City this year and that there is much now on hand.

"The other officers and myself concur with you that the sum proposed by Mr. Woodbury, of \$20,000 - would be entirely inadequate, & that \$100,000 is the

minimum that the public convenience and accommodation requires our Treasurer to have, in order to pay Depositors, and that it would be best to have if not all at least the greater part here, and the balance to be drawn for on you." ~

I confess that I have no clear conception of Gen. Gordon's plan. If the Banks were paying specie, I can conceive that the Merchants might be contented to have their deposits cashed by checks on a Bank from the Treasurer of the Mint, but surely this can hardly be the case now. Yet such seems to be Gen. Gordon's idea. If it be founded, and you have Bank funds to transfer to the New Orleans Branch, there cannot surely be any objection to doing so. I agree with Mr. Bradford that his Mint fund for the purchase of Bullion ought not to be less than \$100,000, and that as great a portion of it as possible ought to be deposited there and not here.

Mr. Bradford says, in his last letter that all is ready at his Mint except the Coining department, and that they are forwarding that with all expedition.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Sec. of Treasury.

ch 24
McK

151
Mint of the United States,
March 29th. 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst.

I think that we cannot in justice or sound policy
withhold from the Branch Mint at New Orleans a depos-
ite for the purchase of Bullion, such as has been given
to all the other mints, and I must therefore approve of the
course, suggested in your letter, of furnishing that Mint
with specie to the amount of from \$50 to 75,000. At the
same time I must express my regret that any circumstance
should occur to make necessary a further reduction
of our deposits here. Large amounts of bullion are be-
ginning to come in upon us, and we constantly hear
of more in prospect. A week ago we paid Mr. New-
bold \$172,065.28 in gold & silver, of which \$100,000
was for a deposit made on the very day of payment.
He tells me, in a letter received to day, that he has
from \$150 to \$200 thousand more to deposit, provided
the amount can, as before, be immediately returned
in half dollars. I have answered him that it could.
But, if many such deposits were offered, and should

McK 9700
McK

happen to come together, a large fund would be required to keep up the system of prompt payments, a system which I shall not abandon without deep regret and mortification.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson
(Director.)

To
Lo/

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secy. of the Treasury. }

Write the paper to require

Allye wft

If very faintly

with the other men I shall

draw lightly on the

mint - But if they be

I shall be compelled to

with draw to the extent

hereafter indicated.

W

ould be
Maym
ithout de

servant

Patten
Director

the paper

with me

7th

is the

they

reflected

to the

indicate

Head of the United States
April 3rd 1856

regarding the Call to New Orleans to pay
in \$50,000 to Branch. Most of which
what had I said number of it here &
your instructions to Director &
Increase them as to the credit
of use of it & that may
make some small

Draft to pay it
occasionally - but
when the amount
approach of having
the means. W

McKean

(152)

Mint of the United States,
April 3rd, 1838.

Sir,

A certificate from the Branch
Mint at Sableton, for five thousand dollars, payable
here, was presented to us, this morning, by a merchant from
that place, who has depended upon it for his funds. You
will recollect that a draft on this Mint for \$30,000., in
favor of the Georgia Branch, was promised to Dr. Single-
ton, and I supposed had been sent; but no such draft
has been presented here. If forgotten, could it not
be sent to us directly, without the necessity for Dr. Single-
ton's endorsement, so that the certificate above referred
to may be cashed. The case is a hard one upon the
Merchant who has relied upon us for his funds.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Adj. Spt. &

Send a ^{transfer} draft today

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

for the Georgia branch
of \$20,000 & will

send more soon if funds

commit if necessary

Inform of instant suspension at Sableton

March 31

3. 1838
McKo

153

Mint of the United States,
April 4th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform
you that I have this day received, from the Branch
Mint at Charlotte, a well executed Half-Eagle, struck
there on the 28th ult., and the first of their Coinage.
It is exactly like those coined at this Mint, except in
having the letter C under the head of Liberty. The
letter D will be used at Dahlonega, and O at New Orleans.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury. }

Ms. 392
A. 11

MCK

Mint of the United States.
April 9th, 1838.

Sir, I send you, by this day's mail, a box containing dies for the Branch Mint at New Orleans, which I pray you to have forwarded, under your frank, without opening. The proper direction is given, under the envelope containing your address. The necessity of employing this mode of conveyance will, I hope, be my sufficient apology for giving you this trouble.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Attended to
h

M 398
H. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

29. 11. 38
McK

(155)

Mint of the United States,
April 11th, 1838.

Sir,
I send, by this mail, another
set of dies for the New Orleans Mint,
which I respectfully request that
you will forward under your frank
or label.

I am the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,
R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

Attest to this
h

McK
McK
To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

22 11. 1838
McKo

156

Mint of the United States.
April 12, 1838.

Sir,

I have taken the liberty to send,
with the present mail, another box
of dies for the New Orleans Mint,
which I pray you to forward, under
your frank, as heretofore.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

McKo
11. 1838

Rec'd 12

157

McK

Mint of the United States,
April 18th, 1838.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 16th inst., with its enclosures.

The communication from the Commissioner of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega shall have my careful attention, and I will make an early report to you in regard to it.

The Bill transmitted to you by the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte does not meet my approbation, and ought not, in my opinion, to be submitted to Congress. My reasons are these.

It proposes, first, that Assistants should be appointed to each of the Assayers of the three Branch Mints. They are not needed, and probably never will be, — certainly not at the two Gold Mints. The Assayer at the Charlotte Mint has, indeed, complained, that he has more to do than he can conveniently accomplish with his present force, consisting of two men only; and he asks for an additional hand competent to act as a foreman. The request is reasonable and proper, and ought to be granted; but I am opposed to the appointment of an additional Officer, at \$1500. salary, under the name of Assistant Assayer.

14. Apr 16
Learn

Secondly, it is asked that the Branch at Charlotte should be authorised to coin Silver as well as gold. This would, in my opinion, be at least premature. The small quantity of Silver which they will obtain from their gold Bullion by the process of Separation can be sent here and exchanged for Silver coins. If the Branch goes on successfully, and it be found that they have quantities of Silver Separated sufficient to make its coinage an object worthy of attention, it may then become proper to ask the Authority of law for this purpose: but I think that we should see to what extent they will succeed in the coinage of gold, before we give them new duties to execute.

Lastly, it is asked that the salaries of the officers be raised, - that of the Superintendent to \$2500, and that of each of the other officers to \$2000. - The Superintendent of the Charlotte Mint has now \$2000, and has in addition a handsome and commodious residence in the Mint, with out-houses and conveniences of every kind. You will judge whether this be not sufficient compensation for the duties which he is called upon to execute. I would be glad that the salaries of the other two officers should be raised; but I doubt the policy of asking this of Congress, before the experiment has been fairly tried, which is to decide the question of the real value to the public of these establishments.

I asked, early in the session, in a letter communicated by you to the Committee of Ways & Means, that Authority should be given by law for the employ-

ment, at the several Branch Mints, of as many bars as
as shall, in the judgment of the Director, be deemed
necessary, without confining this number to the too
narrow restrictions made by the present acts. It
is of great importance that this authority be granted;
and I shall take an early opportunity of urging it
upon the attention of the Committee.

I hope to have the honor of seeing you at
Washington on Monday next.

I return to you Col. Wheeler's proposed bill.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of the Treasury.

Send a copy
of this to
Super at the
in reply
W

Write to Secretary of Navy
of necessity of some
into another to
enforce same
W. when necessary

18. 1838
158
J. G. O.

Mint of the United States,
April 20th, 1838.

Sir,

I have looked carefully over the Communications of Agnatus A. Few, Esq. relative to the erection of the Building for the Branch Mint at Dahlonega; and find it impossible to give an explicit opinion with regard to them. The Superintendent of the Branch Mint would be a much more competent judge, and it appears to me that the accounts and claims of the Contractors for extra work ought not to be finally received without his approbation.

On consulting with Mr. Peale, who, as you know, visited this Branch, I am disposed to think that the subjects of claim made by the Contractors, in the first letter to Col. Few of April 2d, for extra work, are such as may justly be allowed; and I presume that Col. Few and Dr. Singleton would be the best judges of the charges which they shall make for this extra labor. I do not know what else they can mean by saying that the "estimate of its value is left entirely to the discretion of the government".

M. 4/17/38
The second letter of April 2d, I do not very clearly understand. If it is intended to intimate that any extra charge is to ^{be} made in consequence of taking down.

the groin arches, and using joists and floors instead of them, I must object entirely to any such Conclusion. The groin arches were taken down because they were insecure from their defective Construction, and the Cost of the Change must fall entirely upon the Contractors.

My Communications show that the Levee roof is altogether insufficient, in consequence of the bad method adopted for putting it on, and the defective Workmanship. As at present advised, I think that it ought not to be received from the Contractors, and that they should be required to make it perfect, not by patching and Soldering, but by re-laying the whole of it. But this question falls within the official action of Col. ^{Levee} Jew, who is responsible to the Government for the faithful execution of the work, supposed to be done under his Superintendence.

I return to you all the papers on this Subject sent with your letter.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson
Director

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

... instead
... such Council
... because
... structure
... entirely
... the time
... of the
... the defect
... ad, I think
... the contract
... make it
... by making
... in fulgure
... es possible
... ection of the
... in tend
... on this
... Servant
... Matter
... Direct

Send a copy of this to
Col. Pease & request him
early attention to closing
up the subject as I
taking the admin as
recorded of this. In the
informing or as
point of being
better of the
of the
Sent 27 Feb 1871
notes

Carland
W
... appeared in the letter

McK

159

Mint of the United States.
April 24th, 1838.

Sir,

As I mentioned, in a late letter, that I should probably be in Washington by this time, it may not be improper to state that I have been detained by a press of Mint business, occasioned principally by demands for small coins, — dimes and half-dimes. The City Councils have determined not to issue any certificates of loan (thin-plates) for less than one dollar, and the Banks are also determined to make all payments less than this in legal coins. I hope to have the honor of waiting on you in a few days.

Most respectfully,
Your faithful servant

Wm. Lenoir
Wm. Lenoir
Hon. Levi Woodbury, } R. M. Patterson.

I shall endeavor to be as
not to return the report
before 8th Nov. 1838

2

April 24th 1838

Adge apt - I think
be happy to see
him, when he
from a man -
the I am happy to
hear of a person
of that kind -

His son is

Went for \$25
man of Glen to the
Bank at New York
yesterday - for

Trout, however, that the
duty of leg. in giving
in receipt of money - with
it is paid
regard me to Dr. Owen
largely in the West
the evening from results -
A draft for about 5000
with 40 today - a letter

M 497 April 26
W. Kean

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re
of
of
New
Nov
imp
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me
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Sha
Unc
Ser
And

Mint of the United States,
April 25th, 1838.

Sir,

In a communication made to you on the 20th of December last, I made the following representation,

"The act of March 3d, 1835, establishing Branches of the Mint of the United States, limits the number of 'Subordinate Workmen and servants' to twenty for the New Orleans Branch, and to five to each of the other Branches. Now this is found to be the smallest number that can be employed as actual 'Workmen' in the essential operations of the Mints; and no provision has been made for door-keepers, Watchmen, & firemen. I consider it matter of necessity that such assistants should be employed at the Mints; but the limit of the present law seems to be imperative, and therefore I have not ventured to include their Compensation in my estimates for the Year. I would, however, most respectfully ask the attention of the Committee of Ways and Means to this Subject, and would propose that an act be passed to this effect: That there be employed at the Branches of the Mint of the United States, such number of workmen, attendants, and servants, as shall be judged necessary by the Director: And, that so much of the act entitled 'an act to establish

Branches of the Mint of the United States," approved the third of March, 1835, as is inconsistent with the foregoing provision be repealed."

I have not heard that any attention has been paid, by the Committee of Ways and Means, to this recommendation, though I believe it indispensable to the proper conducting of the operations of the Branch mints.

There is another provision which I deem very essential to make by law for the communications between the Mint and its Branches. It is that the right of franking be given to the Director of the Mint. Besides the correspondence which is constant, the Branches have to send, by mail, slips, for assay, of every melt of ingots, and specimens of the coins, made therefrom, for examination by the Commissioners at the Annual Assay. From the Mint, all the dies used at the Branches have to be sent, from time to time, by mail. It appears to me therefore that there is no department in which the right of franking is more evidently necessary. But it is proper that it should be given, also, with another view. Much of the business of this Mint is done for distant places, particularly New York. Is it right that the Merchants there should have to pay postage on the communications made to them from the Mint, which should be made as equal as possible in its benefits to every part of the country?

Under these views, I take the liberty of enclosing a sketch of a Bill, which I respectfully pray

that you will bring to the attention of Congress. May
I suggest the propriety of sending it to the Finance Com-
mittee of the Senate, instead of the Committee of Ways and
Means. The crowd of business before the House seems
to make the introduction of a new bill, at this time,
almost hopeless.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. W. Patterson,
Director.

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of the Treasury.

McK

161

Mint of the United States,
April 30th, 1838.

Sir,

I send you, with the present mail,
another set of dies for the Branch Mint at New-
Orleans, which I beg you to forward under your frame
as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Attn to the Duty Director.

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Sec. of Treasury.

P.S. - A letter from Dr. Singletur announces
that they commenced coining at the Dahlme-
ga Mint on the 17th inst.

30-11
MCK

162

Mint of the United States,
May 15th, 1838.

Sir

I have the honor to send, by the present mail, 2 pairs of quarter-eagle dies for the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N.C., which I pray you to forward under your frank.

The counterfeit Spanish Dollar sent, on the 5th inst., from your Department, to be examined at the Mint, requires a difficult analysis, which is still going on. We have found, however, that it contains but 3 per cent of silver, and that about half its weight is of Copper. A part of its composition is bismuth. It is the best imitation of Silver that we have ever seen at the Mint. I will send you the results of the analysis, when completed.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

Altered to this & show the result to person here

50
Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury }

443
MCK

15. 1838
MSK

163

forwarded Mint of the United States.

May 25th, 1838.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you, in this enclosure, a bundle containing instructions and forms for the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, which I respectfully beg that you will forward to him under your frank.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Sec. of the Treasury.

Original of
this forwarded
to W

Inquire me, whether the money in the
mint in Phila. is kept in the
mint or in Phila.

164
MCK

Mint of the United States,
May 30th, 1838.

Sir,

In answer to the inquiry made in your letter of the 28th inst., I have the honor to state, that since the suspension of specie payments by the Banks in May last, all the moneys of the Mint, whether coined made in our own operations or funds furnished by the government, have been kept in the vaults of the Mint, and that these vaults are ample and secure. We have still remaining, however, a balance of \$19,122.49 in the Girard Bank, and a balance of \$5,360.21 in the Moyamensing Bank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

1491
W. A. Woodbury

Wm. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

1657
Mint of the United States,
June 5th, 1838.

Sir,

I send you to-day the usual report, required by the department, of the gold coinage in May; and I now present to you the following statement of the whole amount of coinage done at the Mint during the same month.

<u>Denomination.</u>	<u>Value.</u>	<u>No. of Pieces.</u>
Half Eagles ~ ~ ~	\$ 195,295. ~ ~ ~	39,059.
Quarter Eagles ~ ~ ~	21,972.50 ~ ~ ~	8,789.
Half Dollars ~ ~ ~	174,000. ~ ~ ~	348,000.
Quarter Dollars ~ ~ ~	49,000. ~ ~ ~	196,000.
Dimes ~ ~ ~	62,500. ~ ~ ~	625,000.
Half Dimes ~ ~ ~	26,500. ~ ~ ~	530,000.
Cents ~ ~ ~	8,785. ~ ~ ~	878,500.
Totals ~ ~ ~	<u>\$538,052.50 ~ ~ ~</u>	<u>2,229,348 pieces.</u>

This statement shows an amount of work greater than has ever been heretofore done at the Mint in the same time, since the labor is proportional, not to the value of the coins, but more nearly to the number of pieces. It will be observed that 2,229,500 coins have been struck of less denomination than the half-

dollar, and we are still busily occupied with the fabrication of these small coins, for which the demand seems to be but little diminished.

The Mint at New Orleans, after having various unforeseen difficulties to overcome, commenced coming on the 7th of last month; so that all the Branch Mints are now in full operation.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson

Director

5. 1838
Memo

164

Mint of the United States.

June 13th, 1838.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 11th, announcing treasury drafts on the Mint to the amount of \$75,000, and requesting that they should be paid in gold, if practicable. In answer, I have to state that the payments shall be made immediately, as you desire, — one half in half-eagles, and one half in quarter eagles. But this draft will bring upon us an evil which I have been anticipating. Mr. Newbold stated, when in Philadelphia three days ago, that he would send us from New York \$200,000 worth of gold bullion, and he was led to anticipate immediate payment for the amount. Your draft will put this out of our power, and our new system, which has been so satisfactory to depositors, will be interrupted for the first time. I do not,

by any means, blame the Department
for this, for I am too well acquain-
ted with its embassments, and their
sources: but I make the statement
to show the great importance of repla-
cing, as you propose, as soon as your
means will enable you to do so, the
drafts made on our deposits.

I am, with great respect,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

*Ask him to exhibit the proposed
to pay Mr. Woodbury. For J. Woodbury*

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

13
MSK

167

Mint of the United States.
June 18th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst.

Mr. Newbold has not yet made the deposits which he told us he would forward on his arrival at New York, and which was to be \$20,000 worth of foreign gold. If this amount be sent to us, and can be paid by your draft, the Mint would be amply supplied with gold. Indeed \$10,000 of gold and of silver would be sufficient for the present.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

See to this in a few days.
To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

168

MS. R.

Mint of the United States.
June 19th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith,
for your approbation, the Bond of
Emile La Sere, a Clerk at the Branch
Mint at New Orleans.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

MS. R.

19:1031
McK

169

Mint of the United States,
June 22nd, 1838.

Sir,

Col. Wheeler has submitted the enclosed letters, for my approval, before sending them to you.

As to the Warrant for \$2000, on our Mint, I see no means of avoiding it, and must therefore give my consent to it, though our public deposit is reduced so low that we can hardly spare even this small sum.

Can you not find some means of replenishing our Bullion fund? It is very desirable for us, and might become so hereafter to the Treasury. - Mr. Newbold's promised deposit of \$200,000 worth of gold, dwindled down to \$26,500.

5936
McK
All the Branch Mints are expressing great anxiety for the Weights which Mr. Stassler is preparing for them. They have now excellent balances, which I had made for them in Paris; but they are without weights that are either con-

venient or of assured accuracy. At New Orleans
they are using borrowed weights, which formerly
belonged to the Branch Bank of the United States.

I approve, therefore, of Col. Wheeler's applica-
tion for weights to take with him on his return,
but I would leave the series to be used entirely to
Mr. Hassler, observing only that I do not consider
the 200 ounce weight at all necessary.

most respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treas'y.

Appoint Mr. Hassler of
what a series

Appoint Mr. Hassler of
I tell him what I wish

As to further deposits on the
mint - when Mr. R. comes
whether is expected to keep the series

My,
l Servant
ters
cton,

[Faint, illegible handwriting]

on the
corner
of the house

1838.

G.R.
1
SirPhil^a

170

21st June '38

I am much in need of the weights for the scales now at the Branch Mint of the U. S. at Charlotte N.C. The scales have arrived from France but no weights accompanied them.

I learn from the director here that they are in the hands of Mr. Haffner. If they can be procured in the course of two days I can carry them on with me to N.C.

The weights needed are 1. 2. 4. 5. 10. 15. 20. 25. 50. 75 decimals of an ounce and 1. 2. 4. 5. 6. 8. 10. 15. 25. 50. 100. (200)^x ounce weights.

Very respectfully

Your ob. servant

Geo. H. WhelanSup. of Br. Mint at
Charlotte N.C.

Hon Levi Woodbury

Sec of the Treasury

Washington City

+ Remitted by J. P. Haffner.

U. S. Mint
Phil^a

21. 1st June '38

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer warrant to be issued in my favor on the Treasurer of the Mint here for the sum of Two Thousand dollars payable in silver coin for the purpose of paying for the silver bullion that is in the Gold Bullion deposited for coinage at the Branch Mint at Charlotte, under the provisions of the 12^{sec} of the act of 23^d June 1836 "for supplying metal for coinage."

Very respectfully

Your ob servant

Dr. H. Wheeler

Sup of the Branch Mint
at Charlotte NC

Wm Levi Woodbury
Sec of the Treasury

Treasurer will give
ap^t -
more.

(172)

Mint of the United States,
June 22d, 1838.

Sir,

A letter received by me yesterday, from David Bradford, Esq., Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, contains the following communications, with regard to which I do not feel authorized to act without your instructions, or at least your approbation.

"I must submit, at this time," (says Mr. Bradford,) "a few matters on which I wish to have your early instructions. Mr. Tyler [the Coiner] will have to go to Philadelphia for his family this summer, and, from the fact that the yellow fever is prevailing in Havana, it is generally apprehended we shall not escape, and it would probably be for the interest of the public service that the Officers and Workmen should have leave of absence from the latter part of July to the beginning of November. The Treasurer and Assayer being acclimated intend remaining at all events, and we think the public service would not be incommoded, as deposits could be received, and certificates given for them as is now done".

Mr. Bradford afterwards adds:— "I am desirous of being informed how far I may be authorized

to exercise my discretion in granting leave of absence to the other officers, and to the workmen; and, as I expect to send my family to the neighbourhood of St. Francisville, by the 1st of August, whether I might not accompany them, substituting in my place the Treasurers in my absence".

On the Subject of this Communication, I have to state that there was an understanding on the part of the officers and men who went from here, that they should not be required to remain at New Orleans during the first Summer. Gen. Gordon, and all other citizens of New Orleans whom I consulted, said that to do so would be very dangerous; and, indeed, without the prospect of leave of absence at the first sickly season, no officers or men could have been induced to go on from the North; I therefore agree in the representations and request made by Mr. Bradford, and join in asking that the leave of absence asked may have your approbation.

During the prevalence of the yellow fever in this city, the operations of the Mint were always suspended; and the men were put on half pay. I would propose the same course, for the New Orleans Mint, for the approaching sickly season; with the condition, however, that the half pay should be allowed only to those men who return to the Mint when recalled, and who enter into contract to continue in the Mint throughout that season.

if required.

It will probably not be necessary to extend this indulgence beyond the present summer. After that, it is believed that the risk will be much diminished, and that the officers and men may be required to keep their places as acclimated citizens.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon.

Gen. Levi Woodbury, }
Secy of Treasury.

~~Clyde says I leave it to him to~~

~~secure a second disbursement~~

~~over the whole subject~~

~~under all the circumstances~~

W

MCK

173

Mint of the United States.
July 5th, 1838.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 3^d,
and I send, with this mail, a box
containing fifty of our new dollars,
in compliance with your request.
You will perceive that they are of
the coinage of 1836, and consequently
of the old standard. The coinage
of dollars has not been renewed,
partly because the coin is not
so convenient as the half dollar,
and partly because I am not
satisfied with the eagle.

Very respectfully,

Yours

order
received
July 10

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Satterlee
Director

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Metg. Pm. to the credit of the

Frederick [illegible]

W

Notify me I understand

of the [illegible] of [illegible]

that can be [illegible]

the [illegible] of [illegible]

ten new [illegible]

W

177

Mint of the United States,
July 9th, 1838.

1838
J. K. Sir:—

Prepared to make
the deposit here
of the
Mint
W.

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 7th inst.; and the Collector of the Customs here had sent me, as instructed by you, fifty dollars, to pay for the coins forwarded to you. — Mr. Eckfeldt, our Chief Coiner, promises to send 25 dollars more, of the new coinage, by the present mail.

I have received this morning, from the Treasurer of the United States, a draft on the Collector of the Customs, for \$2,000, respecting the object of which I must pray you to inform me. A draft on the Mint, in favor of Col. Wheeler, as Treasurer of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, has also come to hand this morning, and I have supposed that the other draft may be for the purpose of replacing the money thus drawn from our public deposits; but, if this be so, there must have been a mistake in making the draft payable to me instead of the Treasurer of the Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

107
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secy of Treasury.

at the
W

175

McKean Mint of the United States.
July 15th, 1838.

Sir, You will oblige me very much, if you will cause an authentic list of all the Mint Appropriations made at the late session of Congress, to be sent to me.

A bill respecting the Branch Mints passed the Senate, and I presume has become a law. If this be so, may I further trouble you so far as also to cause an authentic copy of this law to be sent to me. It will require a report from me as to the expediency of introducing silver coinage at the Mints of Charlotte and Dahlonega.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Wm. Patterson,
Director
of the Mint
to Mr. Secretary,
U. S. Treasury.

1838
McK

176

Mint of the United States,
July 30th, 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst., and am pleased to receive your instructions relative to the Coinage of Eagles. I have ordered immediate measures to be taken for the preparation of the dies. We shall spare no pains to make our Chief coin worthy of the mint. You are probably aware that the last coinage of Eagles was made in 1804.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Sec. of Treasury. }

11 July
McK

McK

177

Mint of the United States,
August 8th, 1838.

Sir,

I send you herewith a plot of the ground occupied ~~occupied~~ by the Mint, and of the adjoining lots. You will see by it, that the Mint-building covers nearly the whole of the ground belonging to the government, the open space to the West being only 14 feet wide. The evil of this want of room is already very sensibly felt, and might become much more serious hereafter. We have now no suitable place for our wood and coal, or for our black-smith's shop. We have no ground on which we can erect a smelting-furnace, and in consequence we have now to send our sweep & waste-stuff to England, for the purpose of receiving the gold and silver which they contain. The government sent an agent to Europe to learn the process of refining by sulphuric acid. This agent, who is now an Officer of the Mint, made himself master of the subject, but we have no place where a sulphuric acid refinery can be erected, when it shall be judged proper to do so. In fact any extension of the operations of the Mint which would require an addition to our buildings would be impracticable. If the independent treasury bill, which would have made the Mint a kind of Specie Bank, had become a law, we should have been exceedingly embarrassed, from the circumstance that there are no rooms in the Mint

Aug
1838

unoccupied, and no grounds adjoining the Mint, and belonging to it, on which they could be erected. Besides, we are liable to have the light and air interrupted by buildings being erected on our line to the west, and as the melting-rooms and refinery are on this side of the Mint, the evil would be a most serious one.

Under these circumstances, I have been extremely anxious, from the time of my connexion with the institution, that the government should become possessed of a vacant lot adjoining the Mint to the west, and extending 104 feet on Broad Street, and 100 on Penn Square, as marked in the plot. I ascertained that it could be bought for \$27,000, and, as this was thought a fair price, you were consulted, by my friend Geo. H. Kane, Esq., on the subject of making the purchase for the use of the Mint. You answered, very properly, that this could not be done without a law of Congress for the purpose, and, as we all know the effect on prices, of the government coming openly into the market, the project was abandoned for the time.

A most favorable opportunity, however, of making this acquisition has just been presented, and advantage has been taken of it. The lot was brought to Sheriff's Sale the night before last, and our Chief Corner (Mr. Eckfeldt) and myself purchased ^{it} at the very moderate price of \$20,100. Our sole object was to secure this property for the Mint, and we shall accordingly execute a covenant to show that we hold it in trust for this purpose, and

that it shall be made over to the United States, provided Congress shall, before their next adjournment, make an appropriation for the purchase, at the actual cost to us. If this be not done, we shall regret the circumstance on the public account, but we feel well assured that our private advantage will be more effectually served by selling the lots to individuals;— the situation being one of the most desirable in the City.

I do not make this communication to you with the expectation that you can now take any step in the matter, but merely for the purpose of explaining to you the nature of the transaction, and of attracting toward it your favorable attention.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Secretary of Treasury. }

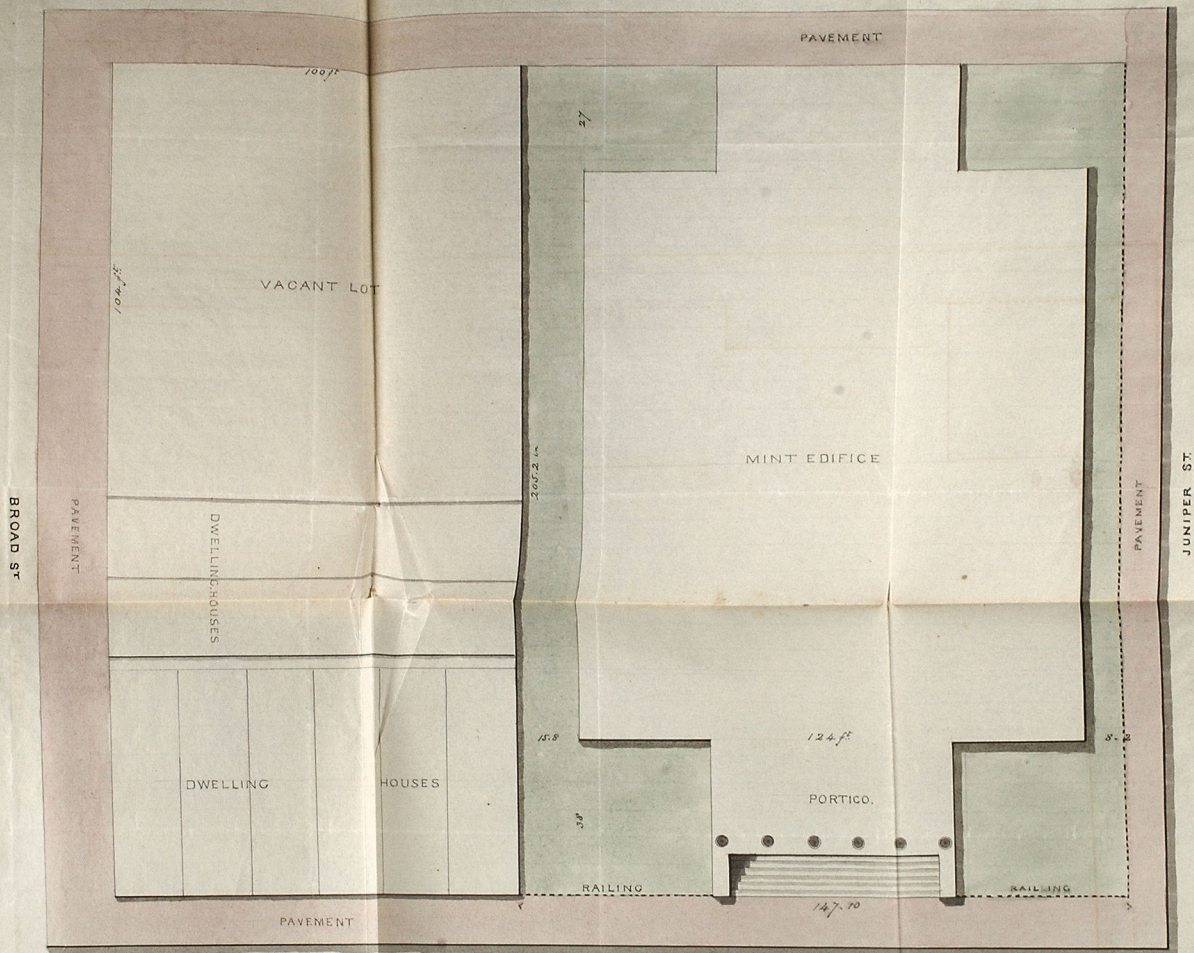
Adjutant & Quarter for the committee

In your next annual report
or in a special one, such as the
next session, I hope you will introduce the
subject.

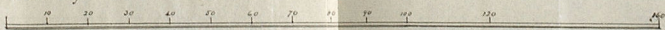
Penn Square.

178

STREET.



Scale 20 ft to the inch



CHESNUT ST

E. A. Mendenhall

179
or Spring - W

Mint of the United States
Sept 1, 1838. 4 o'clock p.m.

Sir,
I have the pleasure to state that
Mr. Nash has just arrived at
the Mint with the amount received
by him on account of the Smithsonian
legacy.

We will take immediate mea-
sures to ascertain its exact value;
and your instructions with regard
to it, contained in your letter of
the 20th of July, shall be atten-
ded to.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. M. Patterson,
Director.

Wm
To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

of the deposit - at the earliest opportunity, as some time
Dependent
is suspended
- only late the
contract
The contract of 7 days will be
I have sent to
Draw on
the Mint
occasionally
during the
- but I
must do so
see amount - or
to draw the
very largely
will be
or Spring - W

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 5th, 1838.

Sir, I have just received your letter of yesterday. As it is night, I am not able to learn the amount of American gold coin that we have at the Mint, but I know that a draft for \$50,000 will put us to no inconvenience.

The Smithsonian gold will all be in ingots tomorrow, and I expect that the whole of it will be coined before the close of next week.

Yesterday & to-day we have received 200,000 Mexican dollars from the Bank of the United States. It is already night, and the value estimated, and the amount will be paid in American coins tomorrow, if called for.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,
J. Wm. Levi Woodbury, } P. M. Patterson,
Sec. of Treasury. } Director.

1838
me Ro

181
Mint of the United States.
Sept. 13th, 1838.

Sir, I have the honor to send you, by
this mail, \$5 worth of quarter
dollars of a new coinage, which
I hope will meet your approbation.

We are making good progress
with the dies for the coinage of
Eagles.

The Mint has never been more
busily occupied than at this time.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

Secret

P. M. Patterson,
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

McR

182

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 17th, 1838.

Sir,

On the 25th of April last, I wrote to consult you as to the commission which I might, with propriety, ask, upon the expenditures made in procuring the instruments and other articles for the Branch Mints, for which contracts were made here, by instructions from your department, and were carefully superintended by me. The labor and trouble of this duty were very great, and the task was unquestionably extra-official, at least under the old Mint laws.

On the 11th of June, you sent me the report on my application, made by Mr. Burke, acting at the time as Comptroller, and this report went to deny any claim, on my part, to commissions, in consequence of a phrase in the law of January 18. 1837, - while the principal contracts were made in 1835, - Mr. Burke's application of the law being thus clearly ex-post-facto.

Perceiving this injustice, you close the letter which you did me the honor to send with this report, by stating that "it seemed to you, that on any disbursements made by me prior to the passage of the Act referred to, a commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. might be

allowed, as in Dr. Moore's case."

In making up my final accounts for the Branch Mints, which I have not been able to do until now, I have made my charge for Commissions under the spirit of your remark quoted above, — omitting all charges except on contracts entered into before the passage of the new Mint-law, and which were executed, and the labor of superintending them completed, before that time, although some of the payments were not made till afterwards. — I take the liberty of enclosing a copy of my charges for Commissions, (sent to-day with all my accounts, to the Auditor of the Treasury;) and I do so with the confident expectation that you will give it your approval.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson

Director

To/

Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury.

P.S. — We have already coined \$400,000 of the Smithsonian fund, besides doing, at the same time, an unusual proportion of other work.

Commissions of Dr. N. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint, for the prosecution and settlement of Contracts, which were made by him on behalf of the Government, and by request of the Department, prior to the passage of the Mint Law of January 18. 1837, as also for other disbursements previous to that date, incident to the Establishment of the several Branch Mints, viz:

New Orleans Branch.

Contract of Merrick, Agnew & Tyler, for Machinery,	
dated December 29. 1835.	\$ 12.280.
Do. " Rush & Muhlenberg, for Machinery,	
dated December 31. 1835.	16.850.
Do. " Matthias W. Baldern, for Machinery,	
dated December 31. 1835.	8.160.
Do. " James Hope, for putting up Machinery,	
dated December 7. 1836.	6.460.
Amount paid William Harrold & Sons for Machinery,	
March 24. 1836, per receipt No. 15.	682.80
	\$44,312.80

$2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on \$44,312.80 = \$1,107.82.

Charlotte Branch.

Contract of Menick, Agnew, & Tyler, for machinery,		
dated December 31. 1835.		\$6.690.
Do	" C. Sellers & Sons, for machinery,	
	dated December 31, 1835.	8.297.
Paid	Wm. Bent, February 13. 1836, per rect. No. 8.	40.14
"	J. N. Otten, March 17. " " " " 13.	20.00
"	J. Saxton, Nov. 4. " " " " 32.	145.33
		<u>\$15.192.47</u>
2½ per cent. on \$15.192.47 =		<u>\$379.81.</u>

Daklonega Branch.

Contract of Menick, Agnew, & Tyler, for machinery,		
dated December 31. 1835.		\$6.690.
Do.	of C. Sellers & Sons, for machinery,	
	dated December 31. 1835.	8.297.
Paid	W. Bent, February 13. 1836. per rect. No. 9.	40.13
"	J. N. Otten, March 17. " " " " 14.	20.00
"	J. Saxton, Nov. 4. " " " " 33.	145.34
		<u>\$15.192.47</u>
2½ per cent. on \$15.192.47 =		<u>\$379.81.</u>

McKean

184

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 24th, 1838.

Sir,
I have the honor to state that the whole of the Smithsonian legacy, brought to the Mint by Mr. Rush at the beginning of this month, is now in American gold coins.

The head die for the new eagle is now completed, and the reverse will be finished this week, so that I hope to be able, very soon, to send you specimens of this coin. We shall have plenty of gold to supply the number you may want. We have had large deposits of bullion, and are fully occupied.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec of Treasury.

Director

185

Mink of the United States,
Sept. 29th, 1838.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending,
under cover to you, two packages, — one for
the Mink at Charlotte, the other for that at
Savannah, which I pray you to be so good
as to forward under your frank.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury }

1838
Mint of the United States,
October 12th, 1838.

Sir,

In the letter which accompanies this, I mention a circumstance which is of new occurrence at the Mint, and to which I must beg leave to ask your more particular attention. In return for a Treasury draft in our favor, on the Custom House, the tender made was of British Sovereigns, which were offered, and received by our Treasurer, under the act of June 28th, 1834, which states that "the gold coins of Great Britain, Portugal, and Brazil, of not less than twenty-two Carats fine" shall be "receivable in all payments, by weight," "at the rate of ninety-four cents and eight-tenths of a cent per penny-weight".

Now the uniform experience at this Mint shows that the British Sovereign is not twenty-two Carats fine. This, which is the legal standard, corresponds to $916\frac{2}{3}$ millimes, according to our mode of indicating fineness; whereas we find, that, in consequence, probably, of the British Mint taking advantage of the remedy allowed by law, their real standard does not exceed $915\frac{1}{2}$, and I see that it is stated in Tate's Manual

of Exchanges, [London & Paris, 1829,] that in France, "the British Gold Coin is estimated at only 915 fine, and is received into the French Mints only at this rate". - The British Sovereign does not, therefore, come within the terms of the Act of Congress, and is not, strictly speaking, a legal tender.

If we suppose the whole value of a coin to be in the fine metal which it contains, that of British Gold at 915½ will be 94.62532 cents per pennyweight. But this is not the just estimate, for the Copper must be added to bring this gold to our standard, and this copper must be paid for. Hence the true mint value of British gold is, as I find, 94.62274 cents per pennyweight. By receiving Sovereigns at their supposed legal value, there is therefore a loss of 0.187 per cent.; which amounts, in the \$50,000 received by our Treasures, to \$93½.

It is too late to act in the present case: but I would respectfully ask your instructions, should any similar tender of payment be made at the Mint. How an action, on our part, might affect our commercial relations, you can best judge. But so far as the Mint alone is concerned, I cannot doubt the propriety of refusing to receive Sovereigns at 94.8 Cents per pennyweight, since, when offered in deposit, we cannot lawfully give for them so much by nearly one-fifth of one per cent.

The laws making foreign coins a legal tender require either to be greatly amended, or to be repealed. I confess that I should prefer the latter course. It is notorious that, with the exception of the dollars of Spain and Spanish America, none of the foreign coins, made a legal tender, are in circulation. Why then should the laws recognise them? At the Mint, they will always be received at their just value, and formed into lawful circulating coins without charge to the depositor. What more can be desired?

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Mr Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury.

P.S. - Since writing the above letter, I have seen a communication from Dr. Moore on the subject of the legalised foreign coins, which was sent by you to Congress in January 1835. In this communication, it is stated that the foreign gold coins are overvalued, and it is recommended that those of England, Portugal and Brazil should be reduced to 94½ cents per dw't. It is therefore nearly four years since this matter was presented to the attention of Congress.

Ans. See to other letter
W

ACK

Mint of the United States.
Oct. 15th, 1838.

Sir, I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 13th, respecting a draft, in my favor, on the Collectors of New York, for \$50,000, - which draft was received from the Treasurer of the U. S. by the same mail.

It is but three days since we made a payment of about \$180,000 to the house of Prime, Ward & King of New York, and if we had then had this draft it would have saved trouble and expense both to them and us. At present we have no New York deposits, except for about \$10,000, - to be paid in small coins. It is probable, however, that by waiting a short time, the draft may be made available here, without the necessity of bringing it specie from N. Y.

I will immediately enter into
correspondence with Mr. Bradford,
the Superintendent of the New Orleans
Branch, as you desire, on the sub-
ject of this deposit.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
P. W. Patterson,
Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

189

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 16th, 1838.

Sir,

I have received, from the Bank of the United States, a transfer of \$50,000 from a deposit which they had made in the Mint, for the draft sent to me from your department, on the Custom House at New York, for the same amount. This amount is therefore now placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, on our books, under the 31st. Sect. of the Act of 18th January, 1837.

To make it available to the New Orleans Mint, it is necessary that we receive an order to place it to the credit of the Treasurer of that Branch, so that he may give drafts on us for amounts due by him to depositors, or endorse their Mint Certificates so as to make them payable here. If you will cause this transfer to be made, I will immediately give the necessary instructions to the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, for making this fund available to his depositors.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Wm. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury.

16.24

McK

Spencer to
Coburn
W

190

18th

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 17th, 1838.

Sir,

In a letter of the 8th inst. from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, he mentioned that it was his intention to make a requisition on the Treasury for \$50,000 or \$70,000, in addition to his present deposit of \$30,000; and he asks my influence in procuring for him this addition, if you should consult me on the subject. As it is necessary for me to leave the City on Saturday next, for an absence of some days, I have judged it proper to anticipate any communication that you might do me the honor to make on this matter, and to present my views with regard to it without delay.

McK

The Charlotte Mint has been in operation ten months, and has received, in that time, about 5,000 oz. of gold on deposit, being an average of 500 oz. per month, or less than \$10,000 worth. Their deposit of \$30,000 gives them therefore the amount of three months' work beforehand; or, in other words, if they are not able to pay their depositors promptly, it must be because they keep deposits more than three months uncoined.

That you may judge whether such a delay is necessary, I may state that their ten months' work has made only nine melts of ingots, or less than a melt per month. At the Sackton-ega Mint they have been in operation only seven months, and have made sixteen melts of ingots, or more than two per month. Now, as these two Mints are exactly on the same scale, I think it reasonable to infer that the Charlotte Mint need not ever be \$30,000, or three months' work, behind-hand.

I know that this mint has been subjected to some extraordinary causes of delay, but the very circumstance that these were extraordinary, makes it ~~improper~~ and improper to provide for them in any other way than by using a judicious foresight to prevent their recurrence.

Again, with all the difficulties that have presented themselves in this establishment at its outset, my last report shows that with \$17,000 due to depositors, there were \$20,000 in the Coiner's hands, of which \$10,000 were in Coins, and certainly the remaining part could be coined in less than a week. It is in the Refinery that delay is most to be feared, and I was pleased to learn, from Col. Wheeler's letter of the 8th inst., that the amount in the Melter & Refiner's hands was less than \$4,000 worth.

I cannot, therefore, see any valid reason for increasing the deposit at the Charlotte Mint. Col. Wheeler is of a sanguine temperament, and dis-

posed to act upon his anticipations; it becomes me, especially in my communications to the head of the department, to be cool, and form my judgment upon existing facts. I cannot therefore give my advice in favor of Col. Wheeler's application. I know that it would be very convenient to the Merchants of the neighborhood to make the Charlotte Mint Certificates payable here, and thus to transfer their gold at the cost and risk of the government, but surely this is not the object for which the Mint was established.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury. }

P. S. — I have just come from our Coining room, (4 1/2 o'clock, p. m.) and find that our two large steam presses have struck, this day, 60,000 half dollars, — being the greatest number of large pieces ever coined in the mint in one day.

17-1838

191

Memo

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 5. 1838.

Sir,

In a letter of the 20th of July, you state that Mr. Rush had been instructed to transfer the amount of the Smithsonian legacy to the Mint, to be deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, and you further say that "as soon as the exact value shall be ascertained, and returned to the Treasurer of the United States, by the Mint, a transfer draft will be issued to place the amount in the Mint, under the provisions of the 12th Sect. of the Act of the 23'd of June, 1836."

The amount was deposited by Mr. Rush according to your instructions, and on the 3'd of September, the net value was found to be \$508,318.46, as reported to you at the time, and this amount was duly placed, in our books, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States.

The last step proposed by you, namely the transfer to the Mint, under the deposit Act of June, 1836, has not yet been taken, and I have deemed it proper to call your attention to it. The money is at present in a somewhat anomalous position.

To,

Very respectfully,

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury.

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson
Director.

20. 5. 11

192

Explanation of the Estimates for the
Branch Mints, for 1839.

I. Charlotte Br. Mint.

1. The Salaries of Officers & Clerk are unchanged.
2. The Wages of labourers are estimated at \$2.50 per working day, for each of 5 workmen; that number being limited by law. - It would seem that at present, one hand received \$3.00 a day, and the others \$2.25. The above average, therefore, will allow for such a variation. The sum is \$300. more than for 1838.
3. The Incidental & Contingent Expenses are estimated at \$44.100., or \$1.300. less than for 1838. The Estimate for that year pre-supposed a Coinage of Half a Million of Dollars. It is now evident, that not more than \$140.000 will be coined. It seems safe therefore to assume \$200.000 as the Coinage for 1839; and upon this basis the Contingent Expenses have been rated.

II. Dahlonega Br. Mint.

The Estimate for this Branch is the same as for Charlotte; there appearing no reason for making any material difference between them.

M. 114

III. New-Orleans Br. Mint.

The Estimates for Salaries of Officers, and Wages of Workmen, are the same as for last year.

The Incidental & Contingent Expenses are set down at \$17,000. The Estimate for 1838 supposed a much larger Coinage than is likely to be realized. On the whole, we cannot assume more than One million of dollars, as the Coinage of 1839; and after duly considering, on the one hand, the Cost of Coining that Sum at Philadelphia, and on the other, the increased Cost of Materials at New Orleans, and the difficulties to be met by a new institution, ~~the above Sum is considered a fair estimate~~ for the expenses included under that head.

It is proper to add, that we have received here no Estimates, from the Heads of those Branches, except from the Superintendent at Charlotte; nor do we know what is expected to be the state of their funds at the close of the current year. Under these disadvantages, therefore, we ask for the above Sums, not being sure that some modification may not prove to be necessary.

R. M. Patterson,
Director of the Mint.

Nov. 22d, 1838.

193

The following Statement forms the foundation for the Estimate of Expenses of the Mint Establishment at Philadelphia, for the year 1839.

The balance to the Credit of the United States, (as appears from the Ordinary Ledger) at Sept. 30. 1838, being available funds, partly in the Girard and Moyamensing Banks, and partly in the Treasurer's hands, is \$ 19.000.-

There remains undrawn of the appropriation for 1837, and still available 18.100.-

The appropriation for 1838, was 35.000.-

The Profits on Copper, for the last quarter of 1838, are estimated at 1.500.-

The Deduction from Deposites, for the same period, are estimated at 1.200.-

The balance of Profit & Loss, on the Credit side, at the date of Sept. 30. 1838, was 3.300.-
\$ 78.100.-

But, of the funds standing to the Credit of the United States, there is the sum of \$ 50.000, drawn in 1836 for the purchase of Copper, which is to be returned 50.000.-

Leaving as available funds for the 4th Quarter of 1838 \$ 28.100

(over)

Brought over

\$28.100.-

Probable expenses in the 4th quarter
of 1838:

Wastage of the whole year \$10.600.-

All other expenditures, dating
from the 3 past quarters of 1838 } 16.500.- 27.100.-

Probable balance on hand, Decamber 31. 1838. \$ 1.000.-

The whole amount of expenditures
within the year 1838, based upon what has
been paid in 3 quarters, and including the
wastage which will probably be asked, is \$75.500.-

The above was partly for new machinery, which
will be going on throughout the next year. The Con-
vayage of 1838 will probably be four millions of dollars;
and it is assumed that it will be the same, in
1839. We therefore reckon, as the expenses ordinary
and Extraordinary, of 1839, the sum of \$78.000.-

To which we ask the addition of \$1000.-
to enable us to commence a collection of Spec-
imens of Coins and Ores, to be reserved at the
Mint, as a National Cabinet } 1.000.-

Carried over \$79.000.-

Brought over

\$79.000.-

Deducting therefrom:

- | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| 1. Probable Profits on Copper
for 1839* | \$6.000.- | |
| 2. Deductions from Deposits | 6.000.- | |
| 3. Balance of 1838, as above | 1.000.- | 13.000.- |

There remains to be asked for

\$66.000.-

*A large falling-off is anticipated in Copper Profits. The amount, this year, will be about \$13.500.-

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mining.

Nov. 22d 1838.

McKinn
inquire of Mr Barclay of the Estimates have
arrived
194
Mint of the United States,
November 23^d, 1838.
Sir,

I have just had the honor of receiving your letter of the 21st, with ten half-eagles forwarded by Dr. Singleton. I am sorry to observe that I had neglected to acknowledge the receipt of a similar remittance of ten half-eagles, sent by you on the 12th inst. A receipt was immediately sent to Dr. Singleton, but it was forgotten that one was equally due to you.

The estimates for the Mint and its Branches, for 1839, were sent to the Register of the Treasury yesterday. - The amounts are,

for the Principal Mint	\$ 66.000.~
" the New Orleans Branch	52.000.~
" the Charlotte Branch	14.000.~
the Dahlonega Branch	14.000.~
	<u>\$ 146.000.~</u>

On the 27th of September I wrote to all the Superintendents of the Branch Mints for their estimates, and have received an answer only from Col. Wheeler. I delayed my estimates to the last moment for these replies, and thus estimates are now presented under much uncertainty, especially from

the circumstance of my being unacquainted
with the probable balances unexpended, at the
Branches, at the close of the present year.

The eagles would have been coined
long ere this, but for an interruption caused by
a complaint under which our Chief Engraver
has been suffering for two months, and which
has ended in the loss of the bones of one of his
fingers. He recommenced work last Monday,
and you may depend upon the remittance
of the 100 Eagles for which you ask, by the
time that Congress assembles.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Secretary of Treasury. }

195

McKo

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 24. 1838.

Sir,

In the 7th Sect. of the Mint-Law of Jan. 18th, 1837, it is enacted that, "to the Assistants and Clerks, such annual salaries shall be allowed as the Director may determine, with the approbation of the President: provided that an Assistant shall not receive more than \$1500., and that a Clerk shall not receive more than \$1200."

Under this provision, the salary heretofore allowed to the book-keeper is \$1000., and to the Director's Clerk \$700. It is, ⁱⁿ my best judgment, proper that these salaries should be increased, the first to \$1200, the second to \$800. The Treasurer's book-keeper, Mr. G. M. Edelmann, is a most faithful, laborious, and skilful clerk, who, besides the duties for which he was at first engaged, now has the whole charge of the Copper accounts, and the distribution of Copper Coins. He has moreover, a family, and with

present Philadelphia prices, his income is not sufficient for their support. My Clerk, Mr. Geo. F. Denning, has not asked any increase, but his services have been so valuable to me, especially in attending to the numerous commissions from the Branch Mints, that I conscientiously think he merits the small addition to his salary which I propose.

I beg leave, through you, respectfully to submit this matter to the President for his approbation.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director.

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury }

The changes are recommended by
me. L. Woodbury

Approved

W. G. B.

24. 11.
MK

196

Mint of the United States,
December 10th, 1838.

Sir,

A mistake of one of our clerks
led me into an error in my requisition sent
on the 4th inst. That which I now enclose,
for the same amount, will, I hope, be found
both explicit and accurate.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,

P. M. Satterlee,
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury.

Nov 23
McKee

197

Mint of the United States,
December 12. 1838.

Sir,

When I took office in the Mint in July 1835, my predecessor, Dr. Moore, gave into my hands the sum of \$4210.77, which he stated to be the unexpended balance of the appropriation under which Mr. Franklin Peale's mission from the Mint to Europe took place.

By a letter, from the Auditor, R. Harrison, Esq.; to Dr. Moore, I find that his account was rendered on the 15th of July, 1835, and it is called his "Account of expenditures under the appropriation of \$7000, made June 27, 1834, in regard to the parting of gold & silver by the Sulphuric Acid process."

No call upon the balance of \$4210.77 having been made, or being now probable, the transaction may be considered as closed, and I am desirous of receiving instructions from your department as to the disposition of the balance still remaining in my hands.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

Wm. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury.

Do. if it must not go to sample fund 2.

Examination 4

198

Mint of the United States,
December 12. 1838.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of ten half-eagles sent from the
Branch Mint at Dahlonega, and forwarded
by you. I have also to acknowledge the
receipt of forty dollars, for four eagles sent
to you on the 6th inst.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To,
Hon. Levi Woodbury, }
Secretary of Treasury.

~~Respectfully
Director
at Dahlonega~~

Mint of the United States,
Dec. 12. 1838.

Sir,

The balance of the profits of the Copper account, up to the 18th of January 1837, (the date of the new Mint-law,) is to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, and so stands on our books in that account. It amounts to Ten thousand five hundred and fifty one Dollars, & 37 cents, (\$10,551.37). It is our wish to close this account finally, by paying this balance, and, as the readiest mode of accomplishing this, I would respectfully request an order from your department to transfer this balance from the Copper account, either to the U.S. Mint deposit under the 31st Sect. of the law of the 18th Jan. 1837, or to the U.S. Bullion account, under the proviso in Sect. 12 of the law of July, 1836.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

att'd to this

4

To,

Hon. Levi Woodbury }
Secretary of Treasury.

M. H. M.

Mint of the United States.
Dec. 17th, 1838.

Sir, In compliance with your instructions, I have this day deposited, in the Mercantile Bank, to the special ~~deposit~~ credit of the Treasury of the United States, \$4210.77, the balance left in my hands, by ~~the~~ my predecessor Dr. Moore, of the appropriation of June 27th 1834, "to enable the Director of the Mint to procure the necessary apparatus for parting gold, and silver by the sulphuric acid &c."

The certificate of deposit is enclosed.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

(201)

May 20th 1891
Philadelphia Dec 17 1891

This will Certify that Robt M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint of the U States has this
day deposited to the Credit of the Treasurer
of the United States in this Bank the Sum of
Ten thousand two Hundred & ten dollars and
77 Cents on Special Deposit I having given
him Duplicate Receipts for the same

H C Gre Cashier

M. 1891
M.

Mr

(202)

Mint of the United States,
December 26. 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst, enclosing the strictures of Dr. Hort.

As to the permission which was granted to the northern officers and men attached to the New Orleans Branch Mint, ^{in absence} during the first summer, I need do nothing more than refer you to the Correspondence between us, on this subject, in June last, which I think will render the course that was taken satisfactory to any candid individual.

Mr. Tyler arrived at New Orleans within a day or two after the date of Dr. Hort's letter to Col. Benton, having been detained three weeks beyond the time of his leave of absence, by serious indisposition. Mr. Maxwell did not come further north than Cincinnati, where he was also detained beyond his time, by the sickness of his wife.

Dr. Hort, in one of his paragraphs, seems to insinuate, that while there ^{are} acclimated persons in New Orleans, well qualified to fill any of the offices at the Mint, their claims have

been overlooked in favor of Northern men, who have to leave the City during the Summer months for the benefit of their health.

No one is better acquainted than yourself with the difficulty that was met with in inducing any persons to accept the two offices which have been filled at the New Orleans Mint by Northern men. There were certainly no applications or nominations for these offices from New Orleans, at least none that came to my knowledge. I fear, indeed, that in case of a vacancy, the former difficulty would recur, notwithstanding the opinion expressed by Dr. Apert to the contrary, and my reason for so supposing is that the place of Clerk of the weight-room having been vacant last Summer, the Superintendent was under the necessity of applying to the North for a suitable individual to fill this situation.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson
(Director)

To

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of Treasury. }

Encl

No Reps 4th July 1837.

203

Mr. Levi Woodberry.

Sec. Treasury.

Sir.

I beg leave, to state to you, that I have been informed, that, the appropriation, made for the erection of a ~~branch~~ of the Mint in Charlotte N.C. will not be sufficient, to inclose, the grounds and the erection of other and buildings that are indispensable - may I enquire if the superintendant of the building has in his report made any suggestion, for an additional sum for that purpose - and if it be deemed proper, that - Those suggestions be sent to the Committee on Ways & Means.

With great respect

Yours Obedient

Henry W. Connor

Also rph. & enclose a copy of the letter referd to - with another addrd to Comtee of Ways & Means.

Charlottesville Feb^y 22nd 1837 ²⁰⁴
W for \$3000 paid 2 March 1837

Sir

You will please be forwarded to
me your warrant for three thousand
dollars as soon as convenient for the
purpose of enabling the Contractors for
the Building the Branch Mint to get
on with the work; I have wrote to Dr.
Rich Patterson Director of the Mint to
have the Engine and machinery sent
on as soon as convenient for him to
to do so, we are progressing well toward
completion of the Building & I have
no doubt but the work will be completed
the 1st of June as stated in my report to
you if not sooner. I am your most obed^t

Hon Levi Woodbury,

Sam^l M^l Comb

Secretary of the Treasury.

Commissioner of the
Mint Charlotte 8th

Warrant of \$3000
for the building of the
Branch Mint

245
L

Machinery is ready for putting up
being so soon as it arrives, I write
afternoon to forward it on as soon
as completed & from his letter to
I am looking for it daily but
from him

20th April 1857

Commissioner of the
Br Mint Charlotte
N Carolina

De. Want for Money &
appropriation for insuring
the ground on which Mint
is being built —

Charlotte N.C. April 20th 1837

205
If you will please forward to me your
warrant for two thousand five hundred
dollars, I think if no unavoidable accident
takes place the edifice for Mint will be
completed by the middle or last of June.
The rear part of the edifice intended for the
Machinery is ready for putting up the mas-
chinery so soon as it arrives. I wrote to Mr
Patterson to forward it on as soon as it
was completed & from his letter to me
I am looking for it daily but have
not yet received it.

20th April 1837

Commissioner of the
Br Mint Charlotte
N Carolina

De. warrant for money &
appropriation for machinery
the ground on which Mint
edifice is built —

Charlotte N.C. April 20th 1837

Dear Sir
If you will please forward to me your
warrant for two thousand five hundred
dollars, I think if no unavoidable accident
takes place the edifice for Mint will be
completed by the middle or last of June
the rear part of the edifice intended for the
machinery is ready for putting up the mas-
sinery so soon as it arrives, I wrote to Dr
Patterson to forward it on as soon as it
was completed & from his letter to me
I am looking for it daily but have
heard nothing of it, nor from him, since
he wrote me he would forward it on
the first opportunity that ~~Mr~~ offer to ship
it; I received a letter from Col. John H
Whelan stating that he would reach this
place by the last of this month, he writes
me he is in bad health, I see there is an
appropriation to melon the ground on

which the edifice for money stands on. If I can
to have it carried into effect, you will please
instruct me on this matter, so that I can
consult with Dr. Patterson the manner in
to be inclosed, also ~~for~~ him to furnish me
with a pattern of the railing & I flatter
myself that when the edifice is completed
that it will be finished in a manner that
will give your full satisfaction to all concerned.

I am Sir your most obedt. and humble
servant &c.

Wm. H. Combs

Commissioner of the
Mint Charlotte 20th

Hon. Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

McKoen

(206)
Branch of the Mint at
Charlotte, N. C. 5th May 37

Sir

I arrived here on the 4th inst and found the buildings intended for this branch in a great state of forwardness, and will be finished in about a month or six weeks. The machinery intended also for this branch has been shipped from Charleston to Camden and the moment it arrives there, will be forwarded in wagons to this place, where it will be immediately put up.

I have in a letter of this date, requested the immediate attendance of the Appler & Coenra who have been engaged in the Mint at Philadelphia, and shall lose no time nor spare no efforts in putting the Branch under my superintendence in active operation.

I am happy to inform you that the buildings are of a style & manner worthy of a free & enlightened government, and Major McComb the Superintendent of the Buildings deserves much credit for his assiduity and attention.

I am assured too that there is a general feeling of good will among the citizens towards the aiding by any means in their power the operations of the Mint.

I have received every facility in their power, and particularly from the President of the Bank of the State of North Carolina who has instructed the Branches to procure all the bullion within their reach, & send it to this mint for coinage.

I understand that from pecuniary pressures, & other causes, the mines of North Carolina have not been so productive, but the active operation of this Branch, the low price of cotton will infuse additional energy among the miners. There is much Bullion among the farmers of the country, waiting for the mint to commence - and on yesterday I was offered several parcels for sale. When the apogee comes on, and I shall have the means of ascertaining its certain value I will be happy to bear your wishes on the subject of procuring bullion. an arrangement by which my bullion certificates would pass in New York & Phila. in Bank, when bullion is deposited for coinage will obviate any necessity of funds in my hands for purchasing bullion.

I have the honor, to be
With great respect

Your ob. servant

Wm. L. Woodbury

Sec. of the Treasury

Washington City

Pro. H. Whaler

Sup. of the Branch Mint
at Charlotte N.C.

247
U. S. Branch Mint at
Charlotte NC 16th May '37

Sir,

A part of the machinery intended for this Branch of the Mint has arrived, the House is ready for its erection, and I expect in the course of a week the assay and Coiner.

I would again call your attention to that part of my communication of the 6th inst. as regards the purchase of bullion. Lots of it are daily offered to the Mint, and when the assay arrives, we will have the means of ascertaining its value. If it meets therefore with your views and those of the President, I propose that there be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of this Branch, in Philadelphia or New York, the sum of Ten Thousand dollars for this specific purpose. When once it is ascertained that a draft on the North or money will be paid for bullion (the drafts preferable) a new impulse will be given to the mining interests, and this Branch will have a handsome portion of bullion to commence operations with in July (I hope.)

Some of the mines are now 300 feet below the surface, & the ore is richer than when nearer the surface. Which confirms the opinion of intelligent men here, that the mines of North Carolina are inexhaustible.

I am, Sir, very respectfully
Your ob. Servant
Wm. Levi Woodbury. Geo. B. Whelan, Sup't. &c

W. K. Charlotte S.C. ²⁹⁸ July 19th 1837.

Dear Sir

I wrote you a letter dated
the 32^d of last month requesting you
to forward on to me the balance
due the Contractor Messrs Perry & Ligon
for the creation of the Edifier for Bonds
Mint in this place. I have had
no answer to my letter and am
sensible that if you have credited
your warrant to be forwarded to me
for the amount requested it has been
taken out of the Mail, or if in the
hurry of business you have over-
looked my request you will please
do me the favor of having it attended
to as soon as convenient. The
Edifier is now all completed but.

The pillars for piazzas which will be
finished in a few days.

I am with sentiments of esteem
Your most obedt &c

Sam^l Ch. Combs

To
Hon Levi Woodbury ^{& Comptroller of the Treas.}
Mint. Charlotte St.
Secretary of the Treasury.

P.S. I have advertised for to receive
proposals for enclosing ground erecting
out buildings as agreed upon by Gov.
Whitaker & myself which I think
I can get completed for five thousand
dollars.

Sam^l Ch. Combs

McHo

209
U. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 28th July 1837.

Sir

We progress here not so rapidly as I could wish or had anticipated, in consequence of the delay in transportation of the Engines, Machinery, Coining Presses &c. All the Machinery has now arrived except the Fly Wheel, which we daily expect.

We have other articles indispensable to the commencement of operations such as fire brick, acids &c, which are now in Charleston. Our Agents there (Messrs Robinsons & Caldwell) in a letter of date the 19th Inst, advise me that the articles have arrived, but that they have no opportunity of forwarding them as the Canal is closed.

I have corresponded freely with the Director at Phil^a as regards the manner &c of inclosing the Grounds and the erection of Out-Houses, and after advertising for Proposals in the neighbouring Newspapers for a period previous, We on yesterday, on opening all the bids, gave the Contract to Mr. James Post, for the sum of \$5,500. He is a faithful and competent man and will enter into a responsible bond for the performance of the work.

The Commissioner who superintended the erection of the Mint (Major McComb) is willing without any additional compensation to continue as Commissioner for the inclosing of the Grounds, and the erection of the Out Houses, Will you be so good as to say whether you approve of this, as also the letting of the Contract.

With assurances of every respect

I am very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

Geo. D. Whaler
Sup of Br. Mint

Yours^{ly} Levi Woodbury
Washington City

Charlotte S.C. August 1st 1837

Dear Sir

I received your letter dated the 25th.
Also the Treasury, enclosing your warrant for
\$10,000 dollars, I have paid over to Messrs Perry &
Ligon \$8,000 dollars & have retained two thousand
dollars of the sum last sent, in consequence of the Roof
the Cooper having some few leaks in it, and
as soon as the Contractors stop the leaks I will
pay them over the balance due them and not
until they make the roof perfectly water tight,
as I think they can do they say they will do so and
I am perfectly satisfied with my course in retaining
the amount stated.

The Cooper is completed with the
erection of the pillars for Piazza and they are nearly
finished and will be completed in a few days.

I have closed the contract for enclosing the Mint
again erecting out houses & the undertakers on
Messrs Poots. they are excellent workmen and
have given bond & good security for the faithful
performance of the work.

I consulted with Col. Wheeler the Superintendent
and I believe we have included in the contract,
very convenient necessity and that he wished at
the sum of \$5,500 dollars which sum you will find
stated in my account.

we made out full specifications & plans of our building
fencing for inclosing ground & and have fully
guarded against any extra work, then will be
No extra work required to be done, all the out
buildings are to be of (Bricks) rough cast & finished
in the best manner by Kitchen Smoker House
Stables Carriage House Bath House Ice House
Garden House Wood House & two other small
Houses also the finishing the basement story
the East end of Edifice for dining room &
for the convenience of the Superintendent.
I hope this course on my part will be satisfactory
to you and will be approved of by you.

I have made out a full statement of
the amounts of money received by me & how
paid out which I enclose to you for your inspection
also the amounts to be paid out all of which I
and hope will meet your approval.

If my account as made out is approved by you
I shall feel happy in being able to give satisfaction
to you.

I will attend daily to the erection of the out
Houses & inclosing the ground & until it is complete
according to contract.

I am yours with the highest regard
Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury
J. M. Cole
Commissioner of the Land Office

P.S. Col^l Wheeler informed me that he mentioned
his last letter to you that I would not charge
any thing for attending to the inclosing the ground
the erection of out Houses, Col^l Wheeler must have
misunderstood me in this matter, I have been
fortunate in having been security but thank God
hand paid all; I over ~~know~~ ^{mean} I am security
for know man I ask nothing but a reasonable
compensation for my services, however I leave
this with you to say after seeing my statement
Accounts inclosed

Sam^l McComb
Commissioner

Received Charlotte NC 2 nov. '37 of Samuel Mc
Comb, Esq. Commissioner of the Branch Mint at this
place, the Mint Edifice, intended for the use of the
United States, which I have now in full possession;

Wm A Wheeler

Superintendent of the Branch Mint
at Charlotte NC

P.S. Col^l Wheeler informed me that he mentioned
in his last letter to you that I would not charge
any thing for attending to the inclosing the ground
the erection of out Houses, Col^l Wheeler must have
misunderstood me in this matter, I have been
unfortunate in having been security but thank God
I have paid all; I over ~~know~~^{mean} I am security
for know man I ask nothing but a reasonable
compensation for my services, however I leave
this with you to pay after seeing my statement
Accounts inclosed

Sam^l C. Combs
Commissary

Levi Woodburn
Secretary of the Treasury

Adm^l of f shall be
willing to pay for
the sum coming
on the disburse
for security as per
the rest
W

K. C. August 11th
Comb-
to Cont

Charlotte S.C. August 7th 1837.

Dear Sir

I this morning received your letter dated the 31st. I believe it was mislaid & forwarded by the Southern Mail. Had I received this letter before I made out my account I should have stated it differently; I hope you will excuse me for what I have done.

I find from your letter that the item of the corner in Contractors account is objected to in your letter it is put down \$1477. In examining the award I find the item for corner to be \$4000. eleven hundred and twenty seven dollars, when I agreed to pay the account of the Contractors to the Referee I stated to them the facts as given by Dr. Patterson Director of the Mint and what is as stated in your letter to me, but notwithstanding the Referee gave them award as forwarded on to you; I do not think the corner could have been made to stand with bricks but to have got out rough stone all three feet in length would have cost the same as claimed by the Contractors. You will please direct whether I pay the Contractors, this item of account or not I do really think it is a fair charge and not so much for their benefit as for the benefit of the Ecclgine. I think if Dr. Patterson was to see the work he would be fully satisfied the work was necessary to

gain strength to the walls, and could not have
been done in any other way to have answered
to how looked well, this work adds much to
the benefit & appearance of the Basin in my
opinion & in the opinion of all that has seen
the Basin & who has given their opinion on
the matter.

As it respects my allowance for my
services rendered to the Government or Commission
I expected to receive 3 per cent for recasting and
paying out the amount appropriated by Congress
of the full amount of Contracts for Basin Moulding
yes? besides my services in attending to the
erection of the Basin which according to the prospect
I was to see that all the materials were of the best
kind as delivered also to see that the work
was done in the best manner all of which require
my constant attention & which I gave daily
from the time of the commencement of work until
this time. I hope if you cannot allow me the
charge I made in my account you will
pleas aid me in getting my claims for my
services, by an act of Congress. I want nothing
more than a reasonable compensation for my
services I think my charge in account is
a reasonable one & I hope will be -

allowed me.

As respects the roof of Esopus I think the Contractors can stop the leaks there are not money & as yet have done no damage whatever but if the Contractors does not stop the leaks I will not remove the roof & will retain in my hands the Am. estimated for cost of roof which is \$1,200. Dollars and if you do not allow the item in award for extra work for corner \$1177. Dollars which added to estimate for roof will make the sum of \$3377. Dollars which sum I will not pay over to Contractors without being directed to do so by you.

I am with sentiments of the highest regard & esteem Your Obedt. Servant &c

Saml. H. Comb.

Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Commissary General
West Charlotte St. C.

Send the paid as to amounts to Dept
of mint & ask for ^{from} ^{admission}

Copy by State to find more fully
as to certifies that they always in there

Charlotte S. C. September 5th 1837

Dear Sir

Enclosed you will find a petition which I have made out to be presented to the Congress of the U.S. now in session, you will please do me the favor to examine it and if you think it right, hand it over to the Hon Henry Le Connor who I have wrote to on the subject if however you think it not right please do me the favor of suggesting to me the most proper course for me to adapt in this matter. The 2 percent is entirely ^{inadequate} for the services rendered by me to the Government, and I trust and hope you will use your influence in enabling me to get a reasonable compensation for my services allowed me by Congress.

I have paid over part of the two thousand dollars which I retained in my hands to the Contractor for enclosing the Mint again & erecting the out buildings we are going on with the work & will complete it by the 1st

Sept 5.3
petition

W^t 6770 issued 11 Oct 1837
McKean

213
H. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 4th Oct. 1837.

Sir,

Yours of the 23^d Ult^o is received, and as regards the requisition for "Compensation of Labourers" in my letter of 3^d, I regret by an inadvertence that it was not specific enough; My letter of the 11th explained it, to which yours before me is an Answer.

As soon as yours of the 9th Ult^o was received replying in Answer to my requisition for "apparatus, tools & fixtures not included in the Contract", that "the balance of \$100. was remitted to the Director of the Mint Philadelphia in compliance with his request of the 23^d August last," I wrote to the Director to ascertain on what funds belonging properly to this Branch, he had made requisitions, and how much he had drawn from the Treasury - that (as he was aware) there were many fixtures, such as erecting the Steam Engine, fixing the Boilers, Presses for the Coining Department &c, erected and to be erected here, and as the fund for this purpose had been drawn by him, whether I could draw on him for the payment, or whether I could pay for them out of some other fund? - that I was directed particularly by the accounting Officers of the Treasury while at Washington, to place each object of expenditure under its own specific appropriation, and keep carefully within that limit.

Received last mail his Answer dated 28th Ult^o.
that he had expended on account of this Branch \$20. 650.
under the appropriation Acts of March 1835, and of 1837, and has an unexpended balance in his hands of \$409. 55 which if there are no.

M-428
McKean

further purchases at Philadelphia for this Mint, can be remitted to me, but he adds, "we do not know here what is the state of the fund appropriated by act of March 1835, it would seem advisable that you should make a requisition for so much of that appropriation as will cover your expenses of Masonry, excavations, alterations of the Building, frames for the Presses, and other charges of a kindred sort, either now accruing or likely to accrue." With this suggestion I respectfully request that you will cause your Warrant to issue in my favour "for the purpose of paying the incidental expenses of this Branch of the Mint" under the 2^d Sec: of the Act of the 3^d March 1835, for the sum of Five Thousand Dollars.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt

Mo. H. Wheeler

Superintendent

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Sec: Treasury
Washington City

Charlotte N.C. October 11th 1837

214

Dear Sir

Inclosed you have a statement of my Act
against the United States as Commissioner of the
Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C. also receipts for moneys
paid out by me, & Cashiers of the Banks certificate
for what money I have on hand deposited in the
Bank at Charlotte as Commissioner of Branch Mint
which Certificate & receipts forwarded on to you
Amounts to all the moneys I have received from
the Government as Commissioner of Branch Mint
the balance remaining to fulfill the payments
for all the Contracts made by me as Commissioner
you will perceive is \$5062.58^{cts} which
sum you will please to forward on to me by
warrant as soon as convenient.

I have made known charge in my account
for my services rendered the Government as
Commissioner of the Branch Mint I hope you
will consider the matter & make me such an
allowance as will be adequate to the services
I have rendered the Government as Commissioner.
The two per cent is too too little for the time and
labour I have devoted to the Government
as Commissioner. Mr. Peal is here the gentleman
sent out by Dr. Patterson the Director of the Mint
at Philadelphia for the purpose of putting the

Mint into operation & examining the Edifice &c.
He has reported to Dr. Patterson the Director
of the Mint and I hope before my letter reaches
you the Director of the Mint has communicated
his report to you.

Mr. Peck is pleased with the site
Edifice & the manner the work has been
executed.

If however you cannot feel willing
to make an allowance as asked for in the
Memorial I forwarded on to you to be laid
before Congress, I hope you will use your
influence in getting Congress to make such
allowance as will be somewhat adequate to my
services rendered the Government as Comptroller
of the Branch Mint.

I am with the highest regards yours
Obedt. Servant

Saml. H. Pomeroy

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Commissioner of the
Branch Mint Charleston
S. Carolina.

B^r Mint Charlotte N.C.

Oct 11. 37

Sam^l M^cComb - Com^r
enclosing his a/c &c

Wth Mr Anthony please
state what bal remains of
appropriation?

M^cC.

Bal of app. for building

for Wth Mint at Charlotte

this 18 Oct. 1837. \$ 400

There is an appropriation for
enclosing grounds &c of \$ 7000
out of which the Superintendent
for \$ 5000 - shall he have that
amount or only a part - perhaps
will be sufficient for the present.

Reps. subscription

M^cC.

Mr Anthony has been directed
to give for 2500 - 19 Oct

M^cC.

M 31. Oct 17

M^cKeon

WCKO

215-
U.S. Branch Mint
Charlotte NC 10th Nov. '37

Sir,

The near prospect of the commencement of actual operation at this Branch of the Mint, has produced a correspondence between the Director & myself on a subject which is of vital importance, viz, the procuring of bullion for coinage.

In a letter dated 21st ult. I addressed the Director in these terms.

" I hope in a few weeks to commence operations. One great object is to secure bullion which now by the mercantile community is carried to New York and elsewhere. Mr Peale (who is here) is clearly with me in opinion, that in order to secure any bullion here, that it must be understood, that my certificates will not only be receivable in Banks in Phil^a or New York, but that they will be redeemed by gold at the Mother Mint. The first is not in our power; but will follow very obviously if the second arrangement is understood & complied with.

It matters but little to the Government whether the coin is in your vaults or elsewhere. It can readily be transferred should you need the coin which we have in our vaults here. I have not corresponded with the Secretary on this point, nor will I adduce any arguments to show the obvious necessity of this arrangement. Will you therefore say that my bullion certificates will be paid in coin by you? "

The answer of the Senator dated 30th ult, pronounces "this impracticable, as unfair and unequal", and suggests as "a legitimate method of gaining your object would be to ask of the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer to you in gold coins a certain amount say 30.000 or 50.000\$ to enable you to purchase bullion for coinage under Col Banta proviso in the 12. sec. of the act of July 1836, regulating the government deposits. The Government has on special deposit at the Mint enough gold for this purpose."

I therefore in conclusion have the honor to request that you will cause to be transferred 50.000\$ of gold coins, to remain in the Mint at Phil subject to the special redeeming of such bullion certificates as may be issued by me, for bullion deposited in the vaults of this Branch.

With assurances of my perfect respect

I have the honor to be

Yours ob. Servant

Bro W. Wheeler

Superintendent

Hon. L. Woodbury

Sec. of the Treasury

Washington City

Charlotte 8th Decr 16th 1837

Wm. K. L. To
Inclosed you have three receipts for moneys paid by me as Commissioner to Contractors;

I have paid Charles Perry & Ligon Contractors the full amount due them as per account forwarded to you; On consulting with Mr. Peal the Gentleman sent on to this place by D. Patterson Director of the Mint, to examine & report the situation of things here I have changed my opinion as to the claims of Charles Perry & Ligon for the cornice to Edifice, I am now clearly of the opinion that they ought not to be paid the item of \$1177. And have wrote to D. Patterson informing him of the conclusion I have come to on consulting with Mr. Peal.

I state myself that when you receive the report of D. Patterson on the subject of the Mint at this place you will be fully satisfied that I have done my duty as Commissioner and am intitled to an additional allowance over and above the 2 per cent for the services I have faithfully rendered the Government as Commissioner of the Branch Mint.

You will please cause your warrant to be forwarded on to me for the sum of Two thousand five hundred sixty two dollars 50^{cs}/100. The amount due by me as Commissioner for contracts made to erect out buildings & inclosing ground &c.

this amount when received by me & paid over will close
my duties as Commissioner of Branch Mint at this place
I hope every thing intrusted to me has been satisfactorily
to you and all consumed; I must acknowledge to you
thanks for your confidence in me in not requiring se-
curity of me as Commissioner of Branch Mint particu-
larly in ⁱⁿ handling the care of such large sum as required to complete
the Bank &c

Your attention to my claim as set forth in the
Memorial to Congress if you can think it just and
rite, will be thankfully acknowledged. My Dear Sir
I am appressed of the great press of business you have
to contend with, and would not ask of you to give your
attention to mine if I was not confident that the service
I have rendered the Government as Commissioner exceeds
more than I present this is a small matter to the
Government but to me a very important one and
hope you will not consider my request intruding on
you.

I am with the highest regard and esteem
your most obedt Servant &c

To Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Sam^l M^l Cornbl
Commissioner of the Branch
Mint, Charlotte S.C

P.S. The weather until the last four or five days
has been very favourable to the Contractors in getting
on with the work on out buildings &c. The out houses
are all erected covered in & rough cast which will
enable the Contractors to complete the whole of the
work of out houses inclosing ground &c. next month.

Col^d I H Wheeler the Superintendent is now receiving
gold bullion in deposit for coining &c. He has received
in the last week or ten days which time he commenced
receiving to the amount of eighteen or nineteen thousand dollars
worth I have no doubt but that very large quantities
will be received shortly & I hope will continue to
be received as the Mining business is growing and
encouraged by the action of the Branch Mint at
this place.

Sam^l R. Comb

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Ever respectfully
an affectionate nephew

Charlotte
16. 3
Comb
M.

Contract

1836
M.

Charlotte S.C. Dec. 28. 1836.

Sir

You will see in the papers that a statement has been made that ~~the~~ considerable damage has been done to the Branch Mint in Charlotte by a storm on the 13. instant, I hasten to inform you that, the statement in the papers is not the fact, there was only a part of the unfinished. - zinc that was blown off which has been replaced since, the whole damage sustained will not amount to one hundred dollars, the storm was great & the zinc not having been fastened at the time the wind got between the sheeting & zinc & blew off a small part.

Yours &c

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

J. M. C. Smith
Comptroller of the Mint

Anthony

Sir

Warrant for balance

218
U. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 23^d Decr 1837

I have the honor to request that you will
cause your Warrant to issue in my favor for One Thousand
Dollars under the following item of appropriation

For Expenses of the Branch Mint at Charlotte,

For Compensation to Laborers

\$1,000.00

\$ 29.000
15.630
13.370 balance
52
-37 630

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

Geo. H. Wheeler

Superintendent & Acty.
Treasurer

Wm. L. Woodbury
Sec: Treasury
Washington City

Attended to today
W

The appropriation for compⁿ to
Laborers — was 1500

whereof has been drawn by R 1150

M. Patterson — 650 }
by Mr Wheeler 500 } bal. — 350

M. H. L.

219
U. S. Branch Agent
Charlotte N.C. 7 Jan'y 1838.

Sir

Yours of the 30th Ult. is before me. I was not aware of the fact therein stated, that the Director at Philadelphia had drawn a part (\$650) of the appropriation, for compensation to the Labourers at this Branch; or I should not have drawn for the amount in my letter of the 23^d. (\$1,000.)

The whole appropriation (\$1,500.) is inadequate for the payment of the Labourers for their past term of service for the year 1837, as I have been compelled to employ the number allowed (given) to this Branch, and have accordingly paid them out of the fund for "Contingent and Incidental Expenses." I now submit the question whether I am allowed to charge the fund for Contingent & Incidental Expenses with this Item; (compensation to Labourers.)

You are aware that without paying the Workmen above mentioned, no work could be carried on at this Agent. The Estimate submitted by you on the 5 Decem^r to Congress for the Expenses of this Agent will remedy a similar inconvenience for the present year.

I may be allowed to make a suggestion similar to one I have heretofore made to the Director; that the funds appropriated for this Branch should be disbursed through the Superintendent here only, as it produces much confusion in my accounts, and often subjects me to the inconvenience of making a requisition upon the Treasury for funds that have already been drawn by the Director.

I have the honor to be Your O^bl. Serv^t

Geo. A. Wheeler (Superintendent)

L. Woodbury Sec^y

print of
7th 1838

220

Charlotte S. Carolina February 15th 1838

Dear Sir

I take the liberty to inform you that I have been favoured with the report of the Committee of ways and Means on my Memorial to Congress and am truly thankful to you for your opinion as to the services I rendered the State as Comptroller of the Branch Mint at this place; I feel under great obligations to you for your confidence in me, in not asking me to give bond for the faithful disbursing the public money placed in my hands as Comptroller of the B. Mint; I am more than pleased to find that I have given you satisfaction in this matter.

I expect the Contract for inclosing the ground and erecting out houses will not be completed until sometime in next month, all the out houses will be finished this week with the exception of painting them; Most of the lumber for inclosing the ground is ready & prepared for putting up & will be commenced next week, there has been a great deal of wet weather here for the last month which has prevented the progress of the work;

When the Contract is completed I will pay off the Contractor & forward on to you their receipts for payment in full for the Contract, & close my account, the amt. in full was forwarded on to me

MS
MS

by the Treasurer as directed by you in Treasury notes
which is equal & better than the gold or silver; here;

I am with sentiments of the highest regard
And esteem your obedt servant. Wm

Amos A. Phelps

Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Comptroller of the Public
Mint Charlotte N.C.

N. 6.
15. 1838

MA

221
U. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 16 Feb'y. 1838

Sir

I request that you will cause to be inserted through the Committee of Ways and Means an appropriation of \$2,000 to recover the roof of this Mint.

From the first I have never been satisfied with the roof, and it has been a subject of correspondence between the Director and myself. Either from the nature of our climate, or the unsatisfactory manner in which the zinc was put on, it has failed to afford us a sufficient covering from the rain; and today, the storm of wind & rain, (which has not now ceased to rage) a large portion of the covering of the roof has been blown off, leaving the Machinery, Apparatus & Edifice exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather. I have taken active and efficient means to remedy this unexpected evil, by employing such resources as the Country affords.

I beg leave to refer you to a copy of the Report of the Assayer of the Mint herin enclosed, and also to Dr. Patterson Director of the Mother Mint to whom I have written, who I presume is at this time in your City.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt.

W
No. 1. Wheelin
Superintendent

2nd copy of this to
Comdr. of U.S. Navy
I need an appn
to cover the
roof of mine
W
Hon. L. Woodbury
Sec: Treasury
Washington City

11299
Chas

N. B.
Feb 11

Copy

223

U. S. Branch Mint Charlotte N.C.
16 February 1838,

F1

J. H. Wheeler Esq
Superintendent.

Sir,

As the violent storm of wind, which occurred this afternoon, has blown the zinc covering from the roof of the wing of the Mint appropriated for the uses of the Assayer, I strongly recommend that, with as much speed as possible, the same be covered with shingles in order to protect the public property which is endangered by the exposure; for if rain falls in any quantity before this is done the ceiling and walls must necessarily yield, and damage which can now scarcely be appreciated, ^{unreparably} ensue.

I am very respectfully
(signed) J. H. Gibbons

Assayer U. S. B. M.

N. 310-7

W. H. W.

Chcks

223
Branch Mint U. S.
Charlotte N. C. 16 March 1838

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be forwarded to me for "the Salaries of Officers & Clerk" for the Quarter ending the 31st Inst. the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars; Vizt.

Superintendent, 1 Quarter	\$500.
Assayer "	375.
Coiner "	375.
Clerk "	250
	\$1,500.

5000 Bal - \$5,000 -

I also request in accordance with the suggestion of the Director of the Mint to you of date 20th Dec^r last (Document N^o 46) that provision be made for a Door Keeper, Watchman and Fireman, and that the item of appropriation "for the Expenses of the Government and Fireman, and that the item of appropriation for Compensation to Labourers" be increased \$1,000, as in the estimate furnished no provision has been made for these aids, so essential to the successful operation of the Mint

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Serv^t

Geo. W. Whelan
Superintendent

See to this reply
in future
amount
W
Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Sec. Treasury
Washington City.

Wt for \$1500 - letter to be filed

Dr The United States in a/c with John H Wheeler, Acting
Treasurer of the Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C. his a/c
of the sum received as a Deposit "to supply metal for coinage" under
the provisions of the 12.th Sec. of the act of Congress passed 23^d June 1836
Cr.

1837	By Transfer Draft No 2235	
Decem: 1	transmitted on this date	\$ 30.000. —

C.C.

31st March '38

John H. Wheeler
actg Treasurer of the Branch
Mint at Charlotte N.C.

MSK

225
U. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 21st April 1838

Sir

Yours of the 13th Inst is just received. In reply to the remark "that the sum of \$30,000 transferred to my credit in the Books of the Mint at Philadelphia, is to be considered as placed in the Branch Mint at Charlotte under the provisions of the 12th Sec: of the Act of the 23^d of June 1836, and must appear under that head in my accounts with the Department," I would respectfully remark that I had thought it necessary to keep my Bullion account, and my account for ordinary Receipts and Expenditures separate and distinct.

I was led to believe this from an examination made by me last year while at Washington of the returns of the Mint at Philadelphia to your Department; and also from a letter from the Acting Treasurer of the United States to me of date the 18th Decem^r '37 in which I am advised on making a return of the \$30,000 received as aforesaid "that I had misapprehended the nature of the account, which I had to keep with that Office," and that "the forms required weekly statements, but this was not necessary where there were no changes".

This is the reason why I did not return the \$30,000 in my communications to your Department of the 2^d Inst, as I had already made returns to that effect to the Treasurer, with which Office only I had supposed I was to keep the account.

I now enclose a return to your Department of the amount received by me \$30,000. under the provisions of the 12th Sec: of the Act of 23^d June 1836, which I hope is correctly made and proper.

I would remark that of this Amount \$24,424.58^{cts} is in bullion here, the balance \$5,575.42^{cts} remains to

M. 36
11

my credit on the Books of the Mint at Philadelphia. This balance
however I propose drawing from Philadelphia, as soon as Bullion
may be presented here, for which the Depositor is willing to receive
a certificate payable in Philadelphia, and I am proceeding as rapidly
as possible to have the Bullion coined up, and shall hold the whole
sum as the property of the United States in accordance with the provisions
of the 31st Sec of the Act of 18th January 1837, "out of which those who
bring bullion to the Mint may be paid the value thereof as soon as practicable
after this value has been ascertained"

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your O^bd^t Serv^t

Mo. W. Wheeler
Superintendent of the
Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C.

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secy Treasury
Washington City.

McK

Mint of U. S. (226)

Phil^a 26th June '38

Sir

I had the honor to request a transfer
draft for 2000 \$ payable at this Mint, for the purpose
of supplying metal for coinage under the act of 23^d
June 1836. 12 sec.

Will you send the draft to me at
this Mint, where I am engaged in procuring articles
for the renewing the roof of the Mint at Charlotte &
employing competent workmen for that purpose, and
in other duties connected with my office.

Very respectfully

Your ob. servant

Geo. H. Whulver

Sup. of U. S. Branch
Mint at
Charlotte N. C

Send it if not been done & inform him

Hon Levi Woodbury

Sec of the Treasury

(Washington)

W

McK

U.S. Mint 227
Phil^a 5. July '38

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 2^d. inst. advising me that "the department has received certain information in relation to one of the Treasury notes advertised in the Globe of the 10th ult."

You will be pleased to correspond with Messrs. Ives and Elms, Charlotte NC, who are the real owners of the notes.

I am very respectfully

Your ob. servant

Jno. H. Fowler

~~Advise the persons
named of what
has been done~~

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec of the Treasury

(Washington City)

~~I trust they
may follow
the subject up
on Richmond~~

U. S. Branch Mint

Charlotte N.C. 6 Sept. 1838

Letter to Mr. Woodbury
with note after Gold

Gold Mines.—We are gratified at the account furnished below, extracted from the Western Carolinian of the 24th inst.

We understand that the Messrs. Bissells have been operating successfully in Ashe county, and we have no doubt that during this Fall that operations will be recommenced on the Mines in this vicinity and we hope with success.

We also learn that the Mint has recently received a considerable amount of bullion for coinage, and also that there will be coined this week a large amount in quarter and half eagles. We understand that a very creditable instance of despatch occurred in the Mint last week, which it gives us pleasure to mention. A gentleman brought gold from Ashe and deposited it on Friday and on Saturday he received his certificate of assay and his amount in gold coin.

GOLDEN PROSPECTS.

Parker's Mine.—We have seen within a few days past, several persons from Parker's Gold mine,—twenty-eight miles below this place in Montgomery County, from whom we learn that the miners are now enjoying a golden harvest at that deposit. A new place has recently been discovered which is yielding large amounts of the precious metal. There are now 150 or 160 hands at work on the ground, and all doing profitable business. The new deposit is situated in Mr. Parker's cornfield, near the House; and the gold is found in the surface of the earth, which is removed to the nearest stream, and washed. Some very handsome pieces have been found, one weighing 3lbs., another 2lbs. 6oz., and from this down to the size of coarse particles. The work is still going on with success.

Barringer's Mine.—We also learn that Mr. Barringer, and his Son, have recently made a new discovery at the "Barringer Mine." It is on the old vein which heretofore has yielded small amounts of gold, but, on the side of the small stream opposite to the former workings. The gold in this vein is always found in what the miners call "nests," we hope this new discovery will prove to be a rich nest of golden eggs.

Reid's Mine.—During the whole of the past Summer, the miners have been doing profitable business at the old Reid Mine. They have found no "twenty-eight pound" pieces lately, but, they have found some considerable "lumps," and no small quantity in fine gold. The present operations are at a new place, not until recently known to contain gold. The mine has been the most productive of any yet discovered in North Carolina, and what is remarkable, the precious metal continues to be as abundant, as it was years ago. We have no doubt, but that it will continue to be worked with profit for years to come.—Western Carolinian.

of the Mines in this vicinity

I have the honor to request that you will issue in my favour for the sum of under the following items in Appropriation Bill

8. attention to the Officers and Clerk of the Branch Charlotte \$1.500. —

Labourers in the various departments 1.600.

of Gold & Contingent Expenses 400.

ing the Roof of the Mint at Charlotte 1.500. \$5.000. —

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Your Obedt. Servt.

Geo. A. Whelan

Sup. & actg. Treasurer

from the Charlotte Journal as regards the prospects

Wm. L. Woodbury
Sec. Treasury
Washington City.

6397,

229

H. S. Branch Mint
Charlotte N.C. 3^d September 1837

Arthur
Sir

I have the honor to request that you will cause
a Warrant to issue in my favor for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars
under the following items of appropriations.

For Expenses of the Branch Mint at Charlotte ^{no appⁿ} \$500. -

For furnishing the Establishment with all the
apparatus, tools, and fixtures not included in
the Contract } Drawn 1,000. -
by Director
Patterson

For postage of Gold and for the contingent expenses
of the Mint } 500. -
\$2,000. -

bal - 2,570

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt.
Geo W Whelan

Supt. & Actg Treasurer

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of Treasury
Washington City

Money

with that other eminent character who has finally been called to it, as setting a just value upon the will of the people. By order of the meeting.

THOMAS M'ELDERRY.

To AARON BURR, Vice President elect of the U. States of America.

Correspondence of the Nat. Intelligencer.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 23.

Well, "the day we celebrate" has gone. We have had our "wine and wassail"—our feast of fat things—the feast of reason and the flow of soul—eloquence, such as can be heard but once in a man's life; and, altogether, a day that time will not blot from the records of our history, or our memories. More than five hundred Delegates were in attendance from all of the States north of the Potomac, and from one or two States west of the Mountains. Masonic Hall was thronged from 11 o'clock in the morning until 4 in the afternoon; and the large and splendid saloon was crowded from 4 again, until near 11 at night.

The Delegates were received at Masonic Hall in a spirited and eloquent speech from the Mayor of the city who gave a warm welcome to all present. The Delegates from all the States responded to the welcome of the Mayor. Mr. John Neal appeared as one of the Delegates from Portland, and was welcomed with three times three, as a representative of the new redeemed, but once fallen State of Maine. Mr. Adams, of Vermont, responded, as one of the Vermont Delegates. Mr. Curtis, of Providence, answered for the land of Roger Williams. Mr. C. had been made Chairman of the Rhode Island Delegation—Mr. Burges the regular chairman, being unable to leave home. The audience gave nine cheers when Mr. Burges was named. Mr. Winthrop, of Boston, responded to a toast complimentary to Massachusetts. Mr. Flagg, of New Haven, answered for Connecticut. Mr. Jackson answered for New Jersey. Mr. Swift, the Mayor of Philadelphia, and Mr. Conrad spoke in behalf of the two committees from Philadelphia. Dr. Naudain represented little Delaware, and Mr. Meredith, of Baltimore, concluded by eloquently addressing the Chair and audience in behalf of the Maryland Delegation.

It was now 4 o'clock, and, under an escort from the citizens, the Delegates marched through Niblo's saloon, where a sumptuous dinner was served up for one thousand guests. The saloon was full and thousands were unable to purchase tickets, or find room for a foot or a hand.

The festival, or banqueting scene, at Niblo's was one of the most imposing ever seen. The Mayor, after the cloth was removed, again welcomed the Delegates, in an animated and thrilling speech, which was warmly welcomed. The regular toasts were now read and responded to in able and heart-stirring speeches. The following were the

Many of the public buildings, rooms of the committees, several, and some private dwellings, illuminated during the evening. Beacon lights, fire-works and cannon, music and processions, and heard through the night. For nearly twenty-four hours, the enjoyment of uninterrupted festivity. The Loco Focos attended three of the processions, but received as many kicks as coppers for the. For the want of better arguments, their opponents with showers of stones, and broken bricks. Theatrical illustration of unsophisticated Focostism.

Our grand display of fire-work postponed from last evening to this

NEW YORK, We are celebrating the fifty-anniversary of the Evacuation of the city by firing powder—hanging out reviewing troops, parading the so forth and so on. The whole ended in an evening salute; one of balls; an illumination of our City in a feast or two in honor of the occasion. A heavy snow began last evening, and continued this morning, somewhat pleasure of the day. One o'clock a bright sun shines upon us. However, has kept back the Hartford, and New Haven boats.

I believe Messrs. Bell and Underwood arrived in the city afternoon from Connecticut. A dinner will be given to them, and, or forty honored gentleman, members of Congress. Mr. Wells present and will address the meetings. Southard, Frelinghuysen, and Levi Lincoln, with other Delegates, will be among the guests. There will be one of the most so given in the city. The object of the Whig celebration. A mass of People are unwilling to public rejoicing. Hence the

The Whigs have also called meeting this evening, to make a for illuminating the stores and of the Poor of New York. A be made to raise ten thousand more if possible. This is to be Whig finale of the Whig jubilee of the New York triumph.

A passionate Lawyer.—The which Impey had was sworn seemed habitual in his kindness in his angry moods; and not fashionable at that time, as it is at the present, it was seen upon him one day after the

the effect of the news of the N. York tion upon the Richmond Enquirer is amusing. This print acts like a boy has received an electric shock—and he that he is not killed out with, out to his companions—"Courage, we are not dead yet!"—[Alas,

ing money at this rate. pecie will find profitable business in timent officers who receive their pay dollars." Members of Congress and d in lieu thereof in silver seven and a We gave a ten dollar bill, and re- new our little stock of specie for post- latches Courtes says—"We have had "Butter Currency."—The editor of

he begins to feel the effects of old age. Gazette, he cannot but acknowledge and elastic; though, says the Lawrence- acles; his hearing is good, and his step lies a day with ease; he writes without old. He will now ride on horseback of the revolution, and is now 106 d John Davis, who served through the encesville, Ga. a revolutionary veteran Veteran.—There is now living at

tion to Europe. richness. It is worth \$20 the ton for are of its value, have thought it entire- rich this mineral has been found totally Hitherto the inhabitants of the district is pronounced to be of the best qual- Be material of Chrome yellow paint.) two inexhaustible supply of Chrome and brass of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail has just in Montgomery county, within sor Duged from a tour of examination, Unity.—Maryland State Geologist,

logical Surveys.—Protes- look out and be their articles as ul.—Columbus Sen- vided with means. Let the people discovered, and they off as many of ed, as no trace of the have been pro- the escape of the negro, as yet, been men have entered them off well manag- the circumstances there is seems, that of 10 negroes stolen from public whar

D. C. Bush, of Talbot county, from all Messrs. Editors:—A few family LOOK OUT FOR MURDER, Col.

l Boston D. Ade. live for this city in the Gene- date for election to day, as a fur- New England Farmer. The want

to be made a law for the purpose of raising money for the support of the public schools

231
Columbus, Georgia, January 9th 1837
16 Jan 1837
178

Mr Towns the Contractor for the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, has apprized me that he shall require the third instalment on his contract, to be paid about the last of this month, as he has however allowed a little discretion in fixing the time, I shall appoint the 15th of February, at which time, the work expected to be finished, and not paid for, will amount to about Twelve thousand dollars, of which sum there is a balance in my hand of nine thousand, eight hundred and sixty nine dollars, forty three cents according to the vouchers transmitted to you, (without deducting my compensation, or other accounts not yet rendered). You will therefore please transmit me a Treasury Warrant for Nine Thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars, as soon as it may be conveniently done, and direct to me at this place.

Very respectfully Your obedient servant
Signature of B. M. Le

The Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

P.S. I wish the warrant to be sent at an early day, that I may ascertain before I leave this place whether I can negotiate it, with the Bank in Athens, otherwise I shall be obliged to incur the risk of transporting the money to Dahlonega

Mr. Mulberry will issue
the money

232

Washington City 7th March 1837

Sir

In compliance with a requisition, ^{made by} Dr. Patterson under cover of your envelope I have visited the Mint at Philadelphia upon official duties, Dr. P. informed me that my travelling expenses would be a fair charge against the Governmentth hence I calculated on being ~~allowed~~ the same. It appears that you are to decide whether I am or not, be good enough to do so. I deemed it advisable to take my Clerk with me for the same purposes for which I was ordered, which Dr. Patterson highly approves of. now Sir another question presents itself for your kind decision, which is whether my Clerk is entitled to his travelling expenses or not, upon which also you will do me the favour to decide. I deem this necess

=arg before I can complete my requisitions
upon the Treasury—

I am very respectfully
Yours &c—

J. P. Singleton

Sept. 1. 1861

Hon. Secretary of the Treasury
of the U. States

Examined & reported I do
not see how the Clerk can be

paid

U

1837
ent of the ch
ch mint
King for an
my expenses

Wm. Sir

Columbus, Georgia, March 13th 1837.

On the 13th February I paid Mr Towns the Contractor for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, Four Thousand five hundred dollars, finding that the work completed was again short of his estimate, made prospectively; - believing however that the progress of the work will be facilitated, by making a farther payment before the completion of the work; I informed him that I would yet keep open his third instalment, and pay him the balance now in my hands whenever the amount of work done should be equivalent to it, as a part of that instalment. Mr Towns supposes that he has lost at least six hundred thousand bricks, by the rains of the last year, and claims the two months allowed him in the contract for providential interruptions. He hopes to have the Building sufficiently far advanced to allow the Machinery to be put up in time for the operations of the Mint to commence by the first of June.

Very respectfully Your Obedt Serv^t

Ignatius A. Sew

Comm^r for erecting Br. Mint

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Examination
Examination of the facts
Amalgamate them to be very

March 13. 1834
Signature of J. W.

In the contract entered into, between
the parties of New Commission
and 13 engineers, to erect
the building, for the use of the
Board of Trustees of the
dated 22 Sept. 1833. Until the
following clause, viz: "the (same)
being allowed a longer time to
complete the work in case of
accident, or a long continuance
of stormy weather, or other un-
avoidable delay, not exceeding
two months."

Attended by
no objection
W

Hand on B2 cap cover side

Sir
 I have thought
 it would be
 well to send
 you a copy of
 the book
 of Augustus
 to allow
 their opinion
 to be
 the Edifice
 is to be
 to finish
 explicit
 with
 The de
 proba
 = ratio
 = stated
 no in

McKean
Sir

234
Columbus, Georgia, May 17th 1837

I enclose herewith Mr Towns receipt for five thousand, six hundred dollars, being the third instalment on his contract for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, - up to the 4th instant, when this payment was made, the work finished since the second instalment was paid, did not exceed that amount in value, - falling very far short of his estimate made up to the first of February last.

It is now certain that the whole edifice will not be completed by the 28th of this month, which is the day fixed as the utmost limit allowed him in the Article of Agreement, and his own opinion is, that the work cannot be wholly accomplished before the first of August. The building is however sufficiently advanced to allow the Contractors for the Machinery to commence their operations, and they will not probably be at any time retarded in their work, by the delay in completing the edifice, as the rear-building in which the Machinery is to be worked, is already covered, and the interior may be finished in a few days.

I must now ask for explicit instructions in relation to the course to be taken with Mr Towns upon the forfeiture of his bond. The delay in completing the edifice will not probably occasion any in commencing the operations of the Mint, from the seasons before stated, and if the public should sustain no injury through the default of the Contractor

I presume you will not desire to enforce the penalty.
I believe Mr Towns has endeavoured to fulfil his
engagements punctually, and should regret the adoption
of any course towards him, which might seem harsh
or oppressive.

I am very respectfully Your obt Servt

Ignatius A. S. S. S.
Comm^r for creating Dr. T. T.

Honble Levi Woodburn
Secretary of the Treasury

Committee of Finance and Supply

Sub. and Comm. in

Like copy

May 17, 37
Feld. Co.
W. Town
\$6,600

235

Cornington, Georgia. September 9th 1837

The Branch Mint at Dahlonega is not yet completed, nor will it be, probably before the 1st of November, as the public service has not yet sustained any injury by delay. Mr Baker the Contractor for setting up the machinery, arrived at Dahlonega on the 28th or 29th ultimo, and found the building ready for him to commence his work, and he assured me that he saw no reason to suppose he should be retarded in his work a moment. I learned from Dr Singleton, the Superintendent, that he had requested the Director of the Mint to have the groined Arches erected, under an apprehension that they could not be erected by the Contractors sufficiently strong to sustain the superincumbent weight, the fear seems to have arisen from a fissure in one of the partition walls, which was supposed to have been occasioned by some defect in an Arch in the adjoining room. After thorough examination, I am persuaded that the building is not sustained the slightest injury from the cause referred to, and on conversing with Dr Singleton I learn that he is of the same opinion. The walls have been banded with iron bars, drawn up by screws, through abundant friction, and they have taken down the Arch, and have sprung another with a little more elevation, so as to make the vertical pressure greater than it was in the first. The fissure in the wall was slight and not more than one or four feet in length. The Contractors appear to be fully able to construct a groined Arch, and I can see no reason why any change should be made in that matter. I fear that the roof can never be prevented from leaking if covered with lime

67 May
W. K. W.

that metal is so sensible to temperature, that, in this climate, it continually contracts and expands with the variations in heat, and it cannot be secured by Nails, or Soldering, because of its rapid oxidation when in contact with other metals. After many experiments in the cities of Georgia and South Carolina, it is now I think generally, if not universally abandoned. Tin painted on both sides, seems to be in every respect preferable. The contractors suggest the substitution of columns of wood, of proper Architectural proportions, for the small Iron columns required in the contract. The effect would certainly be better, the objection is that they are less durable, but they may be easily replaced. We learn that the North Carolina branch was permitted to make that alteration. be pleased to give me instructions on these subjects, and direct to me in this place "Corington, Newton County, Georgia."

Very respectfully, your Obedt servant
Ignatius A. Lewis

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Branch of the U. States Mint
 Deblongue 29th January 1838

Sir I have the honor to request that you will
 cause your tenant to be paid in my favour for
 four thousand five hundred dollars from the following
 items of appropriations for the Branch Mint at
 this place for the year 1837. (Exhibit)

From the sum appropriated	
for Salaries of Officers	\$ 3250.00
From the sum appropriated for	
transport of Gold & Contingent expenses	1000.00
From the sum appropriated for	
compensation to Labourers	250.00
	<u>\$4500.00</u>

W^{ch} dated 13th Feb^y 1837. for \$3300

Treasury Notes or any other funds which will
 answer my purposes will be thankfully received.

I have the hon. of being
 very respectfully Your humble
 Servant

Wm. L. Woodbury
 Secretary of
 the U.S. Treasury

J. S. Singleton
 Cash. for Mint Gen

min
y 29

McK

237

Branch of the U States Mint
Dakota 7th Feb. 1838

Sir

I have had this day the honor of receiving
your communication of the 27th ult. For 10 or
12 months back it would have afforded me much
pleasure to have had some authority in the super-
intendence of the erection of our branch Mint Office.
In fact, I have repeatedly opened an interest at
the risk of the displeasure of the Contractors, and
Superintendents (Col. Jew) I would excuse myself
by often making known my great anxiety to facilitate
the objects of the Government in the establishment of
her branch Mints, and felt it to be my duty to
occasionally apprise Dr. Patterson with regard to their
progress, and manner of proceeding. Col. Jew has not
been here I think more than three times since the
commencement of the Building, and his usual time of
stay has been from late in the afternoon on the day
of his arrival until after early breakfast the next
morning. I merely mention this to enable you to form
only a tolerable estimate of the justice extended
to the Government for her liberality to this section
of Country. Col. Jew has not been here since if mistake
not since last summer, and it is very uncertain when
he will come, our Building is not yet quite fin-
ished, but so far advanced as to enable us to commence

11 278
Ant

~~as to enable us to commence~~ our operations from
and after Monday next 1st Inst. I have deemed it ad-
-visable to commence thus early for the relief of
public anxiety, and to hasten as much as possible
the fulfilment of the original Design.

One of the Contractors is here taking possession of
Building, and estimates that he will be so until it
is received, and we know not when, or whether it will
ever be received or not. On the present condition of
the Roof, one would reasonably suppose that it
could not be received, without some very strong gear-
-ing for another and better season as the winter
season is over. From the instructions which I have
received from Dr. Patterson I apprehend difficulties upon
a final settlement for extras &c — this however
I do not regard.

I should not have made a transfer of the
papers &c. attended to in your letter it will afford
me much gratification in endeavoring to have a
prompt completion, and equitable settlement of
the whole affair.

I have in the hon. of being
yours very truly

Hon. Lewis Woodbury
Secretary &c

J. P. Singleton
Capt. Rev. Minst. Gen.

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Handwritten notes and signatures in the center of the page, including a large circular mark and several lines of cursive script.

Wrote to Mr. Rice
that his attention
immediately to
settle with the
contractor or enable
the said to take
the papers and
as it is indispensable

J. C. Kew

238
Branch U.S. Mint
Dahlgren 16th Feb^y 1838

Sir,

By directions of Dr Patterson bearing date the 21st January last I have the Honor to request that you will (under the proviso in the 12th section of the Law of July 1836 regulating the deposits of public monies) cause your warrant to be issued in my favour upon the Mint in Philadelphia for thirty thousand dollars, to be kept there as a fund to enable me to make my Branch mint certificates payable at that place, as an accommodation to the Depositor should he desire it, and also as a fund for the purchase of Gold Bullion in certain cases - The same privilege having been extended to the Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C.

I have the Honor Sir of
being Very Respectfully
Your Ob^t Serv^t

See to this
W

Now Levi Woodbury

J. H. Singleton
Chap. Br. Mint Genl

Sec^y of the Treasury

McKean

Branch of the U.S. Notes Mint
Dickinson N^o 4 Feb. 1833

Dear

The length of time elapsed since I had the honor of making my 3^d Draft upon the Treasury Department ~~for~~ which you preside, and not having heard from ~~the~~ you, induces me now to enclose a copy of the same with the hope that it may not be considered too importunate.

Very respectfully remain
Your humble servant
J^{rs} Mingleton
Messrs. B. & Mendenhall & Co

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary H. C.

13. Col. ^{ry} Jew has not yet arrived

Reply to him as the pants are
B

240
Branch U S Mint
Dahlonga 29 Jan^r 1838

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will cause your warrant to be issued in my favor for four thousand five hundred dollars from the following items of appropriation for the Branch Mint at this place for the year 1837 to wit

From the sum appropriated for Salaries of officers	\$ 3250. 00
From the sum appropriated for Wastage of Gold & Conting ^t Exp ^s	1000. 00
From the sum appropriated for Compensation to Laborers	250. 00
	\$ 4500 00

Treasury notes or any other funds which will answer my purposes will be thankfully received

I have the Honor of being
Very Respectfully

Your Humble Serv^t

J. J. Singleton

Sup^t Br Mint

How Levi Woodbury

Sec^y of the U.S. Treasury

McKean

241

Sir

Stratton, Georgia. March 6th 1838

I avail myself of the kind permission of Mr Forsyth to
drop you through him, on the subject of an enlargement of the compensation
remitted me as Commissioner for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, Georgia.
The per centage fixed by you upon the sum expended under my direction, is so
totally inadequate to the duties imposed, the expense necessarily incurred, and
responsibility involved, that I should have resigned, as soon as I became aware
of their nature and extent, but from the advice of Mr Forsyth, and the belief that
you would enlarge the salary whenever a proper representation was made
to you, and I have refrained from calling your attention to this matter until
business was completed, that you might have my claim fairly before you, and
decide upon it, unembarrassed by any difficulty which might grow out of a
change in the Commission, and leaving the matter to rest entirely upon your
own apprehension of the justice of the case. Whatever delay has occurred
in completing the Building, I believe impartial judges will acquit me
of any instrumentality in causing, or permitting, and I am still persua-
ded that the public service has not been injured by it, as I was assured by
Mr Baker and Dr Singleton in September last, that the Building was
sufficiently advanced to allow such of the machinery as was prepared,
to be put up, & that the operations of the mint could not commence in less
than four or five months, it must also be remembered that many alterations
to the original plan, were made at the instance of the Superintendent and
officers, and much time necessarily lost in making them. On the whole
I suppose it may safely be averred that if the Building had been finished
on the 22nd of May last (when the contract required it) that the operations
of the Mint would not have commenced any sooner than they have, and
the Contractor is now prepared to tender his Building for acceptance
except some work on the roof which must be delayed until the weather is

warmers) of which I shall give you official notice in a few days, I hope, may be allowed to present my claim for a sufficient compensation, without prejudice from the delay in completing the contract, and especially as I must protect against being held responsible for his failure, because I have kept the Department constantly advised of his progress, and have some direction in every case when his covenant was likely to be violated.

I have supposed that when you fixed the compensation at two per cent on the sum expended under my direction, you expected (as I did when I received your first communication) that the whole duty imposed, would be discharged in the course of the year 1835, and be very different in its details from what in fact it proved to be, and I am persuaded that on a candid examination, you will feel willing to make a proper compensation without any reference to the amount originally stated; - If you do not, I shall sustain, what is to me a serious loss - the loss of that time, which would have commanded the means of supporting my family, in other occupations, equally honorable, less vexatious & involving much less responsibility.

I must not close this private communication without tendering my respectful acknowledgements, for the courtesy with which you have conducted our official intercourse, and begging you to believe me to be very sincerely & respectfully your obt. servt.

Signature A. S. S.

Honorable Levi Woodbury

Albany. n.Y.

It would appear me
... of compensation

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[illegible]

22.

Geo.
-6: 1838.

242

Branch of the U.S. Mint
Dahlonga V. April 1838

Sir Wm. K. O.

I have the honor herewith to enclose you an estimate of the disbursements of the U.S. branch mint at this place for the preceding month of March accompanied by the proper vouchers. Having been instructed by D. Patterson that "I make no report except through him" consequently I made none until the 1st of March last, when I reported to him our entire proceedings from the beginning of my official duties, which I expect he has received and transmitted the same to the Treasury Department, where I hope it has by this time arrived and proved to be satisfactory. —

I have never received any form, or specific instructions with regard to the shape of my reports, consequently had only to rely upon that which I thought best calculated to answer the purposes of the Director of the Mint, as well as the Treasury Department. And I now make this with a view of its being connected with that which I have already made, and for the purpose of closing the first quarter of this year. In future so far as my office of Treasurer is concerned I shall make my quarterly returns to the Treasury Department as the same directs unless otherwise instructed. Should there be a particular form for such reports required by the Department, I will gladly conform to it, and be thankful in the receipt thereof.

The aggregate amount expended up to the first of March as per my report to the Director of the Mint is eleven thousand nine hundred and forty one Dollars and 40 1/4 cents.

And the items of expenditures during the month of March last are as follows (Gowitz)

For Miscellaneous work Done within the Mint including the purchase of coal and other contingent expenses four hundred and five Dollars 4 1/4 cents. For wages of workmen belonging to the Mint three hundred and fifteen Dollars. For Salaries of Officers six hundred and twenty five Dollars.

Recapitulation. Aggregate amt. ^{Expended} \$ 11,941.40 1/4
 For Miscellaneous & contingent expenses 405.4 1/4
 For wages of workmen belonging to the Mint 315.00
 Do Salaries of Officers 895.00

Total amt. expended up to date 13,286.87 1/4

Do Do Received \$ 15,050.00

13,286.87 1/4

amt. on hand \$ 1,763.12 1/4

The specific appropriations for 1837 having been exhausted some time since with the exception of a balance of salaries of officers, which balance I have been only compelled to use for the foregoing purposes, with a view of replacing it out of the appropriation for 1838. Should we be so fortunate as to get such

I am happy to inform you Sir, that our prospects for fulfilling the expectations of the public

of the Cr. Mints are much better than my apprehen-
sions permitted me to expect so far as regards this
Branch. Imperfect as our condition appears to be,
owing to the unfinished state of the Edifice, no
arrangements for either comfort, show, or conve-
nience and the opposition to the Institution &c. notwith-
standing all of which, since the commencement of
assay operations (which has only been about
two months) we have received on deposit \$119,414.
And as soon as we commence coining which will be
about 405,000 pieces, we expect more than double the
amount, and which is now only held back
for purposes of an immediate exchange for our coins.

A large number of valuable mines are
now lying dormant on account of the apprehensive
hostility of the Indians, this together with the
high price of provisions, rendered so by the number
of troops in the country, and the great demand for
Rail Road labour, all combined no wonder the
last year's report of Gold Production at the Mint
fell ^{far} short of the preceding years. -
As soon as our Indians are removed, our soldiers
returned to their homes, our Rail Roads completed, and
all apprehensions of danger dispersed on account of
the Indians, a new era of Gold operations may
be confidently expected, and I have no doubt of our
usual success. Then in fact, and in truth may we
 hail with joyful exultation the advantages to be

derived from what is sneeringly called the Sub-Treasury
System, should it be so fortunate as to get
through the present Congress.

Be kind enough to direct any communications which
you may make to me to Currier's Scrapbook
County Ga.

I am Sir very respectfully
your humble servant

J. H. Singleton
Super. Br. Mint in Ga.

April 2 1838.

Hon. Isaac Woodbury

Secretary H. O.

Washington City D. C.

Accounts sent to
Austin 12 April

M 406 April 12
M Kear

WPK Account sent to 1st Clerk on 28 Apr 38

213

Sir

Warrington Geo. April 6th 1838

I transmit to you herewith, my account with the Department, to which I might have added many small items, the aggregate of which, however, amounts to a very respectable sum which I cannot conveniently lose, in addition to the larger sum I must sustain from insufficient compensation, but as the items consist of Letter postage, and some other incidental expenses, for which I have no vouchers, and from the nature of the account I can have none, I shall not charge them. You will please remark that I stand engaged to pay \$4000 out of the balance left in my hands, as stated in the Account, for the Contractor, soon as the Contract is considered to be fulfilled, and the building received. It became necessary for them to have that sum in November last, but as the third instalment had been paid to them, I was not authorized to make them any farther payment, and therefore became responsible for the amount stated, for them, on the contingency that the Building should be finally received. I transmit to you here with a Statement which has been presented to me by Dr. W. and Mr. W. claiming allowance for extra work, which was done on the requisition of the Contractors for putting up the machinery, and of different officers of the Branch Mint, they are not affixed prices, and the Department must authorize payment of the Account + liberty to agree upon the prices, it cannot be done, as I have no discretionary power in the matter. Some portions of the work specified in the Contract have been omitted by order of the Officer of the Branch Mint + some instruction must be given upon that subject. As soon as I receive your instructions upon these matters, and others submitted in the Statement of Dr.

Sirley & Mr Towns, I shall proceed to make a final
examination of the Building, which is now tendered
the Contractors (save the Roof) as completed, and as,
your recent communications to me, I am induced to believe
that some misrepresentations have been made to the Depart-
ment, to protect myself from any such hereafter I shall
ask some respectable Gentlemen, to assist me in the examination
and give his written opinion upon the execution of the work.

The Building is now entirely in the possession of Dr
Simpson the Superintendent, and has been occupied by
the officers of the Mint, & the contractors for the Machinery
since their arrival at Dahlonega, and as soon as I
receive your instructions upon the matters herein
referred to, I shall be prepared to close the Commission.

The vouchers for all the items in my Account
have been long since transmitted to you, except that for
the office of the Journal of Commerce which is enclosed
herewith.

I am very respectfully yours
J. B. Towns

Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Signature of J. B. Towns
Commissioner for erecting Branches

P.S. I shall not apply to Congress for any enlargement
of my compensation.

Copy No 1

244

2nd April 1838

Col Hew

Sir. In pursuance of our determination yesterday we have drawn up the statement of the extra work without an estimate of its value, leaving that entirely to the discretion of the Government. viz

2 Girders nearly the length of the rear building 90 joints 3 by 12 feet long - 50 (these by alteration were put 1 ft instead of 2 ft.) 1 floor 8 by 12 ft with sleepers under the cistern. "Cutting 4 doors and fitting with shutters 3 of them in the rear of the building with excavations and steps for the same. (outer doors). Fitting with stone sills and iron bars for a window in the other door, including the filling up with stone work to the win^d sill. Dressing and getting out stuff for the cistern 4 by 8 and about 12 feet high. Cutting out, and door frames, shutters &c for 4 doors in the partition walls of the basement and principal stories (locks included) complete. 20 perches of Rubble work in the rear building in consequence of the unevenness of location.

Running walls of brick under the posts of the rear building which support the machinery - the two walls 45 feet long and 1 foot high - with the posts say 12, posts 12 inches square of white oak. "making furnace for the smith and the brick, cleaning out room around the engine a second time.

"The brick and putting up the same for the boiler furnace.

"The stone and brick work which supports the engine.

Extra timber for supporting the fly wheel. Running two wood partitions in the rear building height of the story, one of them in the extreme rear room and the other next to the main building, say about 50 ft long in all - including 2 doors with locks and hinges complete (plastered)

Repairing plastering broken in putting up machinery, say about 20 square yds. Plastering 3 rooms in the basement, hauling sand and water for Mr Barrett and brick for paving, say 5000.

" Cutting of floors for Furnace Hearths, Plastering Furnaces the appayers depart and cementing one room floor in basement and Lash and glazing & casing 4 windows in the basement. An opening through the roof and shutter.

The above includes all the items for which under any circumstances we would feel entitled to pay as extra work.

It will be for the Government to determine their propriety and value. We are aware of delay in the execution of the work in consequence of causes which we could not control and which it would be utterly needless at this day to enumerate. We do believe, however, that the Government has suffered no damage from our delay. The Cornice of brick according to the plan we deemed absolutely impracticable though it is well executed. The roof we do not recommend as perfect, there being some leaks which after the weather has settled can without difficulty be made good.

We consider that 1000 dollars with the time now on hand will cover every possible expense to come in perfecting the roof. There are lathed and plastered Cornices of several years standing in our state and which by the by cost as much as brick Cornices that are good. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

James Tinsley
Benjamin Townes

VPB In addition to the foregoing statement we wish the Government to take into consideration the following facts, viz that by their permission wood columns have been substituted for cast iron, and that 2 Iron doors have been omitted by

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substanti
ted by

direction of the Superintendant, after the frames had been
worked into the walls with their stone caps and sills otherwise
than is herein stated. We present the job and is completed.

James Gimsley
B Townes

Copy No 2

215

2^d April 1838

Col. Genl. Sir. In addition to a statement in reference to the Branch Mint at Dahlonega this day handed to you. We deem it prudent to refer the Government also to the change made by it in ordering an omission of some of the main Arches and substituting therefor straight ceilings. There were two of those arches perfect, a third had been put up perfect, but was taken down at the suggestion of the chief builder and being in accordance with his instructions. The other three had the centering up ready to lay on the brick, but for the reason before assigned they were taken down. The straight ceilings and floors underwent a second alteration at our expense, at the instance of ~~one~~ or, another of the Officers, so that taking into consideration the size and number of the additional joists for the straight ceilings in the aforesaid four rooms, the second alteration in the construction of the floors over them, and the waste of lumber and labour in constructing the centering ~~and~~, together with cutting out holes for joists girders and iron bolts, we consider the expense to us in the one case is equal to what it would have been in the other. Of this, the Government must be its own judge. All of which is respectfully submitted.

James Zinsley
B Towns

MCK

246

Sir

Washington Geo. April 10th 1838

I received your communication dated the 27th of March, by this morning's mail. You will have received my letter of the 1st inst, and enclosures, before this can reach, and have learned from them that I only await your instructions upon matters therein submitted, "promptly" to close a business relating to the erection of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega. It is true that I have not been at Dahlonega since September last, and of that fact I suppose you to have been apprized. At that time all the Building, (except some portions of it which have been altered by the directions of the Officers of the Mint, and a small part of the Plastering, - part of the Painting - the Columns and a few other inconsiderable parts of the Edifice) was completed. The Contractors for putting up the Machinery, and the Officers of the Mint, were in it in possession of the Building, and I did not intend to visit it again, until I was called on to make a final examination and receive the House. I informed Dr Singleton of my purpose, and requested him to write to me, if in his judgment, my presence, or aid should be required. The Contractors assured me in September, that they expected to offer the Building as completed, in about six weeks - it has turned out otherwise and they say, partly because of the alterations and additions made by order of the Officers of the Mint, and which by their command they were required to make on the requisition of the Government. I hope soon to receive your instructions, and then expect, after completing the same, to report the whole proceedings to you.

Very respectfully your obt^d servant
Signature of Levi Woodbury

Levi Woodbury
 Secretary of the Treasury

Mr. Woodbury's comm^o referred to was sent 10th to the Senate at Philad^a

Mint, Geo.
April 1838

McK

247

Sir

Borington May 8th 1838

38

I received your communication post-
marked the 24th of April, by the mail of yesterday, and
Patterson's letter, in the same envelope. Your
instructions will be followed, and the business with
the contractors for erecting the Branch Mint at Dublin,
Ireland, closed as soon as it can be done.

I am respectfully

Your Obedient
Servant
Wm. A. Lewis

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury

Geo.

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C. 111

ling.
Geo.
y 8. 1838.

McKean

248

Br. U. S. Mint.
Dahlonga 29th May 1838

Hon Levi Woodbury

Sir,

The Assayer & Refiner in this Branch of the Mint has near three quarters of his annual salary now due him; he has held back with a view of accumulation, and draft upon Philadelphia; in addition to this we have an account at the Mint in Philadelphia for three or four hundred dollars with an expected increase. Therefore I must beg the favor of a warrant payable in Philadelphia in favor of Dr. Patterson the Director of the Mint for two thousand dollars. The Assayer wishes to get into the hands of Dr. Patterson one thousand dollars in Treasury notes - any funds that will answer our contingent purposes in Philadelphia, will suit for the balance of the draft.

This amount taken from the aggregate appropriation for the expenses of this Branch of the mint for this year, leaves a balance of Eleven thousand Eight hundred dollars to close of the appropriation for enclosing our edifice and for out building. In order to save the unnecessary trouble of another draw

for this year, I have the honor to request that you will issue your warrant in my favor for the balance of (\$11800.) unless you may deem it most advisable to issue for a less ~~sum~~ amount, in which event please exercise your own discretion with regard to the amount.

We have been for some time out of funds and I have been compelled to act the best way I could without.

With regard to the appropriation for our enclosure, and out buildings, I am not apprized of the course to be ~~pursued~~ pursued to effect the object of the Law; Will you have the kindness to instruct me upon this point, as I think it important that the work should be speedily commenced, with a view of having it finished before winter.

If it is convenient to send us Treasury notes, they would be preferred to any other funds.

We are progressing with our mint operations fully as well as ought to be expected under the peculiar circumstances produced by the removal of our Indian neighbors.

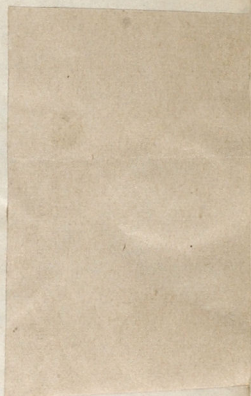
Please direct yo

communications to me at Auraria Lumpkin
County Georgia

I have the Honor Sir of
being very Respectfully
Your Humble Servt

J. P. Singleton
Capt. Wm. McIntosh's Regt

RECEIVED



Altho to this
I send enough
to pay all
now due

Refer to
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order of the
Mint

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to the

Anthony

249

Br U S Mint
Daklonega 22nd June 1838

Now Levi Woodbury Sir,

I regret very much the informality of my requestion of the 29th ult.^o By way of an excuse which perhaps it is my right to offer, I will barely say that the amount required covered the entire appropriation for 1838, and I felt authorized in the size of the requestion, by a decision of the President in March 1837, which was as I was informed at the Treasury Department that a disbursing officer of the Government could draw an amount not exceeding that of his bond - This, together with my determined course of economy, I hope will be a sufficient excuse for the breach of order.

I now have the honor of again requesting that you will cause your warrant to be issued in my favor for two thousand dollars from the following items of appropriations for the Branch Mint at this place for 1838 (to wit) - One thousand dollars from the sum appropriated for the salaries of officers &c. \$1000.00
One thousand dollars from the sum appropriated for warlage of Gold & Conting. Exp.^s 1000.00

The draft for the above amt I wish to be made payable to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia - and I also have the honor of requesting that you will cause your warrant to be issued in my favor for four thousand dollars from the following items of appropriation for this branch of the mint for 1838, (to wit)

Two thousand dollars from the sum appropriated for the salaries of officers ————— \$2000.00

One thousand dollars from the sum appropriated for compensation to Laborers 1000.00

One thousand dollars from the sum appropriated for wastage of Gold & Counting

Expenses ————— 1000.00
\$4000.00

This later sum of Four thousand dollars I wish forwarded to me if convenient in Treasury notes, and which will not more than pay up arrears with one month's advance as per your instructions of the 8th inst.

I have the honor of being
Very Respectfully yr humble
Servant

J. P. Singleton
Chap. Ex. Mint in Phila

Sir

Conington Geo. June 29th 1838

On the 29th of May, I examined the Branch Mill
 edifice in Habbonega, having previously requested Mr Towns to
 meet me there, he did not attend however, and I requested Dr
 Conington and Mr Masow (the Chief Carver) to estimate the value of
 extra work, this they finally declined, and advised that the Contract
 should affix prices on the work, subject to revision and alterations on
 part of the Government; I have since seen Mr Towns and requested him
 to pursue that course. - I have directed Mr Towns to take off the Linch
 from the Roof, and lay it aside, on a different plan, from that
 first used, and under the direction of Workmen having more experience in
 the business, and he is now engaged about it. - You will perceive by
 referring to Dr Patterson's communication, a copy of which you enclosed to me
 that in these matters I have pursued the instructions given to me. -
 The Building has been finished for some months, except the mere putting in
 of three sashes, which are made standing by the openings, and putting one coat of
 paint on two columns. but the Roof cannot be received, and I have
 required Mr Towns to have that made tight before the work is received under
 the contract. He is impelled by the strongest motives to do this immediately,
 as he has not received ^{much} more than half the sum allowed for the Building,
 whilst the whole of the work has in fact been done.

I am very respectfully Your obedt Servt
 Squatier, A. Luv

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
 Sec^y of the Treasury

check

251
Mr W. S. Mint

Dahlonga 3^d Octr 1838

Sr.

I have the honor of informing you that I have this day in obedience to law forwarded for the Treasury Department, directed to the Auditor Mr Sigs Miller our Report for the quarter ending 30th Sept 1838

Our ordinary disbursements for this Branch of the U. S. Mint amounts to \$3832.54, this sum compared with the amt^t charged to me during the same quarter will show a smart difference against me, but add to my credit the amt^t paid in Philadelphia for the use of this Institution, for which, as yet I have no vouchers, this latter sum added to \$425 the amt^t of Cash on hand and my quarter salary, about balances as will be seen by the a/c Current.

I am now indebted to the other officers of the Institution nine hundred dollars and have but the above \$425 to pay them with. Anticipating this I had the honor of requesting the issue of your warrant in my favor on the 4th ult^o and as yet have heard nothing from it.

We have paid to Depositors

Since the commencement of operations at this
Branch of the Mint \$41,901.79 cts and
the amt paid to depositors at the Mint in
Philadelphia \$12,621.03 cts making a sum
total of \$54,522.82 cts paid out in Gold
Coin and drafts upon the Mint at
Philadelphia. By order of the Director of
the Mint we have paid \$1017.76 cts
in Gold Coin for Silver Coin for the
use of the Pay Department of this Br of
the Mint this added to the above sum
total makes our Credit equal to \$55,540.00

And by way of information which may
be interesting to you, I take this occasion
to mention to you that we have remaining
in our vault \$49,391.13 cts in ^{Deposits} ~~apay~~
Gold Bullion and in coin, besides 46
Ounces & 12 hundredths of an Ounce of
unapayed Gold. The whole of which
is respectfully submitted

I have the Honor of
being your very humble
servant

Wm. J. Singleton
Chap. Br. Mint in Phila
Hon. Lewis Woodbury
Secretary &c

See to this matter
W

McK

252
Br. U. S. Mint
Dahlongga 27 November 1838

Hon. Secy Woodbury

Sir in conformity to the in-
structions recently received from the Director of
the Mint at Philadelphia, I have this day
enclosed to you ten half Eagles, representing
certain numbers of our coinage preparations, or
Coiners Deliaeries. I am instructed by the
Director to request you to forward them
to him, you will therefore be pleased to
do so. I shall continue to send similar
parcels by order of said Director.

I have received no intelligence
from the requisition dated 4th September last
which I had the honor of making upon the
Department for funds. I have subsequently
repeated the same, and hope soon to hear
from the Department as we are much in
want of said funds.

I am very respectfully
Sir your obedient servant
J. S. Singleton
Chap. U. S. Mint in Ga

Oct. 12,

See if there be
any eagle
in the fund
then go on

2. Mint
Nov. 2. 1838

WPKO

253
Br. U.S. Mint
Dahlonga 9th Mo. 1838

Dear Sir

In obedience to instructions from the Director of the Mint I this day enclose you ten more half Eagles for the Anna's Appay, representing our Mills numbered from 8 to 17 inclusive omitting no. 9 and 12 which went by the last Enclosure to you on the 11th.

The Director requests that the same be sent to him, I will thank you to forward the package accordingly.

I am very respectfully
Your humble servant
J. P. Singleton
Chap. U.S. Mint Ga

Wm. Lewis Woodburn
Secretary &c

Br. Mint, Pa.
Nov. 9th

Alfred
Mint
to Phila.

11th 10. 243 - 10th Decem^r

Br. U. S. Mint
Dahlgren P Dec: 1838

Dear Sir

I this day enclose you ten more half Eagles for the Annual Apay, making the 3rd parcel of ten each sent according to instructions from the Director of the Mint, as yet I have heard of the receipt of but one parcel (1 sent) Be pleased Sir to forward them forthwith to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia.

At the end of the year I shall not have funds sufficient to meet the demands against this branch of the U. S. Mint, I must therefore beg the hon. of requesting that you cause your warrant to be issued in my favour for three thousand dollars from the following items of appropriation for 1838. (Ditto)

From the sum appropriated for salaries of Officers	\$1000.00
From the sum for pay of laborers	1000.00
From the sum for wastage of gold	1000.00
And contingent expenses	3000.00

I am very respectfully yours &c.

Wm. Lewis Woodbury
Secretary &c

J. B. Dingleden
Chief Clerk

Mind, Sec
Dec 1: 1838

McKean *in* of the *virtuance* 255
In favor of U S B Mint, New Orleans
January 3rd 1838.

Hon/ Levi Woodbury, Secy of the Treasury of the
United States

Sir,

Fearing that the original of which
the foregoing is a Copy and which I forwarded on its date
by the Express Mail, may have miscarried, I have to request
that the funds be transmitted by Express Mail to the Treasurer
of this B. Mint, as they are urgently needed, the Mitter and
Refiner and Coiner having yesterday borrowed upwards
of two thousand dollars to pay the workmen.

Very Respectfully

Your Humble Servant

David Bradford

Superintendent.

Adm. Sec
10 Dec 1838

Mint N. O.
3^o 1838

255
Anthony 26 S B Mint New Orleans
December 9th 1837.

Hon,
Levi Woodbury, Sec^y of the Treasury of the
United States.

Sir,

I have to request that
you issue a warrant in favor of Edmund Forstall
Esq^r Treasurer of this Branch Mint for the sum
of six thousand dollars (\$6,000) out of the appropriation
for paying the Officers and workmen of this Branch
Mint

Very Respectfully
Your Humble Servant
David Bradford
Superintendent

WT No. 7192
18 Dec 1837

Attended to this
W

Remittance from the Treasurers office on the Union Bk & Co
on the 19 Dec. 1837 for \$6000

Over

Recd
11209 Jan
A. Thompson
Clerk

Amble McK
Genl Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury

250
Treasurer's Office Br Mint
New Orleans 13 feb 1838

Sir, In the absence of Mr Bradford
the Superintendent of this Mint who is severely
indisposed, I would beg leave to state that
under the impression that a fund would be
provided by the Government, for the purpose
of making available the Treasurer's receipt
after the value of a deposit had been
ascertained by Assay, some of the Merchants
of this City have procured large supplies of
Bullion from Mexico, which they wish to
deposit in the Mint, but which, if there is
no fund provided, or other regulation adopted,
whereby the Treasurer's receipt can be used for
the current purposes of Trade, will pass into
the hands of the Merchants Bank here,
whence it will be transmitted to Mr Biddle
at Philadelphia - The Assayer's, & Melters &
Refiner's departments are now ready for
business, & the Coiner will be ready by the
1st of March. I would further take the liberty
of remarking that the sum of \$10,000
written for by Mr Bradford on the ult.
has not arrived, & that the preliminary

operations of the Mint are much impeded
from the want of funds - Mr Gordon
would advance for us temporarily, if
a draft which he lately drew on Mr
Patterson for about \$2000 had not been
protested,

Remain very respectfully

Yours obt. Servt.

Edm: Forstall
Treasr of Br. Mint (N.Y.)

McKean

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans

257

March 8th 1838.

Hon. Levi Woodbury, Sec^y of the Treasury of the United States,
Sir,

I have to request that you issue a warrant, in favor of Edmund Forstall Esq^r Treasurer of this Branch Mint for the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) out of the appropriation for paying the Officers and workmen and for furnishing the whole establishment, inclusive of all apparatus, tools, and fixtures, not included in the Contracts, of this Branch Mint.

I have to state that on presenting the last draft received by Mr. Forstall for ten thousand dollars from your Department on the Union Bank in this City he was told that they had no funds of the United States, but that they expected a deposit in a few days; and that accordingly in a few days after it was paid, but after giving some trouble, disappointment and much anxiety to the other Officers and men, in consequence of this Circumstance, and the little disposition in the Bank to accommodate the other Officers and men in small notes, or Checks on Philadelphia, from whence most of them come and where they have left their families I have to request that the above Requestion be paid, at least in part, by the Collector of this Port in specie, or in Treasury Notes.

I have the gratification of informing you that a Deposit of silver bullion was made in this B. Mint yesterday of upwards of thirty thousand Dollars worth, which will be assayed to day and the melting and refining commenced also to day, and the Coinage I hope this month. The Coinage department of this Branch requires much adjustment and repairs and improvement which the Coiner hopes to effect in this month. I wrote the Director of the Mint at Philad.^a last week that had

David Bradford, Esq^r

Mr. Forstall, the treasurer of this Branch, a hundred thousand Dollars at his disposal to pay Depositors, I was satisfactorily informed that Bullion to that amount would be immediately offered to this Branch for Coinage and I am now confident the quantity would exceed that estimate. The house (Lizardi & Co.) that made the Deposit yesterday wish this Branch to coin for them by the first of June next \$300,000, which I was happy to inform them they might rely would be done on their depositing the bullion.

I have to request that the Draft in payment of the foregoing be permitted by the Express Mail as at the end of this month the Officers and Clerks will be entitled to receive their quarterly salary and the Workmen their monthly wages and time is too short, if it be sent by the ordinary Mail, for them to be paid, which if not then done will be to them a great and distressing disappointment.

My instructions in the discharge of my duties which you may favor me with, as I am the most inexperienced of any of the Officers of this Branch, I assure you will be most thankfully received, and your orders, prompt and faithfully obeyed and executed.

Your Humble Servant

David Bradford
Superintendent

Br. Miss W. Orl.
March 8. 1838.

on any spent points, I make any
unpleasant - as to
points to, Gray per letter
to come

Dr.
Levi Woodbury, Sec. of the
Treasury of the U. S.
Washington City,
Dist. Col.

By the Express Mail

Mar 8

See letter today -
I send the reply
I doubt by
Erdson

No. 349 March 11
W. H. Kearney

Nov.

258
Levi Woodbury, Secy. Treasry. U. S.
Sir

The within Requisition is made in
Consequence of a Request from Dr. Patterson of the 7th inst.

I had written to the Doctor on the 28th ulto.
that the Mitten and Phipps wanted a variety of articles for this
Branch, Nitric Acid and Crucibles, procured at Philadelphia
and sent here. Dr. Patterson wrote me on the 7th inst. that the
articles will cost about \$1001, and that to pay this and other
accounts that may accrue, I will thank you to send me \$2,000.
either in Treasury Notes or a Draft. It is my wish that for the
future no draft should be made on your appropriations except
by or through yourself."

Mr. Tyler, the Coiner, informs me that
he very much needs a large lathe which he expects is
by this time finished in Philadelphia for the Branch
and to pay for it also. I have thought it best to place
the necessary funds in Dr. Pattersons hands at this time, and have therefore
made this acquisition for three thousand Dollars. The balance on the lathe
Mr. Tyler tells me will be upwards of a thousand Dollars.

I have to Request that you inform
me at your earliest Convenience the unexpended balance on
the appropriations for this Branch; as I am not informed of the
amount drawn by Dr. Patterson and am by him referred to your
department for the information. Your letters of the 14th and 31st ulto,
and the funds from the Collector of this port, viz; \$10,000, and \$60,000, have been received
at this Branch.

V. R. Hume - Secy.
David Bradford, Sup.

U.S. Mint New Orleans 259
May 5th 1838

Sir,

Levi Woodbury Secy of the Treasury
of the U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor of transmitting by this
Mail a package containing small assay
pieces to your address and have to request
that it be forwarded under your frank to Dr.
R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint at
Philadelphia.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
David Bradford
Superintendent

Sec to the

1838.

MeKo

260

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
June 15th 1838.

Hon. Levi Woodbury Secy of the Treas.^y of the U. S.
Sir,

I have the honor of transmitting by this mail
a package containing small assay pieces to your address and
have to request that it be forwarded under your frank to Dr.
R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia.

I have the honor to be very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
David Bradford
Superintendent.

~~Altered to this - Hyson~~
~~Wm. Lang. J. G. J. W.~~

69 May
W. Kean

Mr. Levi Woodbury Secy of the Treasry U.S.

Sir,

The within Requisition is made in order
that Mr. Tyler, the Coiner of this Branch, may purchase a
number of Articles, indispensable for this institution, when
he is in Philad.^a for which place he leaves here to-
day, and is to return here by 1st November next

What few Articles of a suitable quality and
description we find in this place are at a greatly advanced
price which has determined to avail myself of the very
acceptable offer of Mr. Tyler to attend to procuring
what Articles are still Requisite in his and the other
departments of this Branch, whilst he may be in
Philad.^a

I have to tender you my thanks for your
prompt attention to and Compliance with a similar
requisition which I made you on the 19th April last and
which enabled us to receive without delay as it resulted
many very Requisite Articles and I hope the facility
now Requested will equally advantage the Public
Service.

Y^r H^{on}. S^{vt}

David Bradford
Sep^r

Levi Woodbury

Your ob^d Servant

David Bradford Secy

New Orleans 6th January 1837

262

I received last evening a Warrant dated 27th December payable to my order, on the Union Bank in this City, for the sum of Seventy one thousand Dollars, which I presume was transmitted under a requisition made by me on the 15th ultimo for that amount, with a view to the payment of the four last instalments under the Contract for building a Branch of the Mint of the United States in this City.

I shall pay to the Contractor this morning one half of the amount of the Warrant, say \$35,500. for the 5th & 6th Instalments now due, and the other two instalments will be paid as soon as the building is completed.

The Ship "John Sergeant" from Phil^a, having on board the Engine and principal part of the Machinery for the Mint arrived safely in port two days ago. a part of the Machinery has already been landed, safely deposited in the building intended for the Mint, the remainder will be delivered in a few days. and I have advised Dr. Patterson of the arrival of the Ship.

The person employed to put up the Engine and Machinery, is not as yet arrived, but he has been expected for several days past, immediately on his arrival I will assign the receipt of his Commencing forthwith.

On the arrival of the Superintendent of the Mint (which I presume may be daily expected) I will deliver to him the Machinery, together with every thing appertaining to the establishment, and take his receipt for the same, if the building should not be completed by the time of his arrival, the balance of the public Money which may be in my hands unexpended will promptly, (upon your order to that effect) be paid over to him - referring to my Letter of the 27th ultimo on this subject.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your Obedient Servant
Abraham Gordon, Secy

To the Honorable
Senr Woodbury

1837

New Orleans

a warrant
to Beall

McKenna

New Orleans 19th June 1837

263

Sir

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the Branch
 of the Office of the United States established in this City, is now in the
 condition to commence operations, as soon as the balance of the
 machinery shall have been sent on from Phil^a. The engine,
 together with the Rolling Mill, Cutting Press, and drawing apparatus
 are all complete. They have been put in motion and work well.

I have by this mail written to Post Patterson, and informed
 him of the condition of the establishment here, and have urged the
 necessity of our commencing operations with as little delay as possible.
 If the balance of the machinery can be sent out, I can get the
 establishment under way in 10 or 15 days after its arrival. But as
 it cannot be expected, that the Officers not acclimated would venture
 here, at this season of the year, it is feared that the circumstances
~~must~~ will delay its operation till the month of October, at that period
 every thing will certainly be in readiness.

We are progressing rapidly with the South Wing of the
 building, and it is expected by the 10th July to have the second story
 up. The materials (Stone and Iron) for the inclusion of this story
 have long since been ordered, they may now be expected to arrive
 soon. The building of this wing, will not in the least interfere with
 the operation of the establishment, in that part of it, which is already
 finished.

You will find on the opposite page a requisition for
 \$40,000, which is the balance of the Contract for building the Edifice
 and inclusion of the site. You will be pleased to forward me a
 warrant on the Prime Bank of Louisiana for that amount. It
 will not be required (it is expected) to be in specie.

The Contractors will be perfectly satisfied to receive - payment from me,
in the notes of that Bank

With great respect

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedt Servant

Wm Gordon Sec
Com^y of

Alfred W. Gordon

The Honorable

Lois Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Wm Gordon
Com^y of the Bank
of the United States

Alfred W. Gordon

264

Collectors Office

New Orleans July 22nd 1837

Sir

Within the last week, several parcels of Silver Bullion have been offered to me in payment of duty Bonds, not feeling authorized to take it, it was declined.

As the mint will shortly go into operation here, would it not be well to secure any parcels that may arrive, and be offered for sale, the parcels offered to me, were sold at 120 cents, per ounce of pure Silver, payable in Mexican Dollars, The Mexican Govt. having prohibited the exportation of Bullion, it is seldom it reaches this country,

Very Respectfully

Your obt. servt

Jas W. Furber Esq

The Hon

Genl Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington